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Tracing witches and wizards in Europe

Münchner Merkur
Münchener Zeitung
für Politik, Wirtschaft, Kultur und Sport

Researchers working on a book of European folklore are hunting down the last European witches, wizards and sorcerers in their hiding-places from the Urals to Portugal and from Iceland to Turkey.

The forty researchers involved in this project will interview several thousand people, hoping to learn from them the particular customs and traditions of their area and any particular local superstitions.

These folklorists are particularly interested in old traditional ways of life and work practices, most of which would have died out by the beginning of the twentieth century, when the technological revolution swept Europe and radically changed the way of life.

Did the vicar and the headmaster at the local village school receive a gift of lard and gammon whenever a family in the village slaughtered a pig? If so the folklorists will be interested to hear it.

Such titbits are as interesting to them for material for their book as detailed descriptions of the paraphernalia of a bygone age, the flail, the hand-plough, the wooden washtub and the instruments required when building with clay.

The team of scientists comes from all over Europe, East and West. They have made the headquarters for their work at the universities of Bonn and Zagreb.

One of the team is Professor Matthias Zender, a farmer's son from the Eifel and head of the national history and folklore centre at the institute for scientific research into German history attached to Bonn University.

Proudly he said: "This work is the only scientific project in the whole of Europe touching on the border zones of Asia and North Africa. In the four years we have been working together there has never been any discord between East and West."

It was in Bonn that the first "Atlas" of German folklore was produced between 1928 and 1935. Professor Zender worked on this project, too, as a young scientific assistant.

At the moment in Bonn the preparatory work on the new "Atlas" is under way. The finished work will be published in four languages, English, German, Russian and French.

Details of threshing in olden days are being researched by a scientist from East Berlin. A Dane is writing about old peasant cutting and carving implements. A Portuguese is researching into customs surrounding jewellery and ornaments in the Christian religion in days gone by and in the present day. His researches will even include modern-day plastic Christmas trees!

Russian scientists, researchers from the other Balkan countries and Western researchers are looking into ancient customs surrounding fire in specified areas.

Customs and traditions are so ephemeral that research of this kind is a race against time, the more so at the moment since technological progress is proceeding at such a rate that in a short while many charming customs will be extinct and forgotten.

Already there are few people alive who can remember what life was like in 1900. The oldest person cooperating with Zender's team is 93 years-old.

The institute in Bonn has sent thousands of questionnaires to elderly people in the villages and small-towns of the Federal Republic and there is an urgent search for more people who can remember peasant life here sixty or seventy years ago.

To be of real value to the researchers they must have detailed knowledge of methods of ploughing, cattle rearing, marketing and inheritance in those days.

Zender and his team are not overlooking the present day and have compiled a questionnaire about rural life in the years 1967-1970. They want to know for instance how long the modern-day widow wears her weeds, how a modern wedding is celebrated, customs surrounding the Christmas-tree, customs at *Fasching* and what saints are invoked to fight what illnesses today.

Josef H. Weber

(Münchner Merkur, 25 June 1970)

Flight of fancy sends Bavarian police on wild-goose chase

"Emergency, Munich airport calling; will flight engineer H ... please report to Munich airport immediately. Boeing 707 is in distress. Emergency landing may be necessary."

This SOS call was received by the police in Kaufbeuren, Bavaria, on 21 June. But the distress call did not come from Munich airport, it came from the aforementioned H ..., a 23 year-old former Lufthansa employee, who wanted to gain status in his girlfriend's eyes.

H ... had given police his girlfriend's address and immediately following the "mayday" call he was picked up from there in a police car.

He quickly pulled on an old airline uniform and told police: "I've had a few drinks; can you take me to Munich? "

With its blue light flashing and siren wailing the police car raced off with would-be flight engineer.

On the outskirts of Munich a local police car was waiting to take H on the rest of his journey. But already Munich police were some what suspi[cious] and on arrival at Munich's Riem he was taken into the Lufthansa offi[ce].

Nobody had sent out a call fo[r a] former employee and there w[as no] Boeing in distress. H ... had to [admit] that his story of the plane's pilot be[ing] seriously ill with symptoms of poi[soning] and the Boeing being brought in b[y a] trainee pilot was just a flight of fancy.

"I just wanted to seem big t[o my] girlfriend," he said. But now he is ch[arged] with impersonation and raising a [false] alarm and will have to pay the cost [of his] free ride through Bavaria in the [Kauf]beuren police car.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 25 June 19[70])



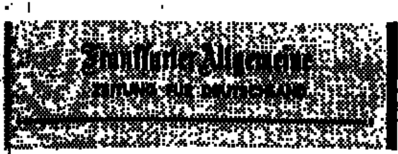
The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 30 July 1970
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EEC entry negotiations will have world-wide repercussions



Following the commencement in Luxembourg of the procedures designed to lead to the entry into the European Economic Community of Britain, Denmark, Ireland and Norway negotiations are now under way in Brussels, first with Britain, then, from September, with the others too.

The present negotiations are not merely a matter of British membership of the Common Market. Far more is at stake.

Europe consists not only of these ten countries. There is also the group known as the rump Efta — Portugal, Iceland and neutrals Switzerland, Sweden, Austria and Finland. Austrian neutrality is in a class of its own and Finland is in a tricky political position.

The nine Efta countries constitute a free trade area and have abolished tariff walls between each other. It would be pointless to reverse this progress following the Common Market entry of the four, forcing Denmark or Norway, say, to re-erect tariff barriers against Sweden.

There are other European countries too that would be affected by the proposed fusion of economic and political forces in Europe — Spain, for instance, not to mention our neighbours in Eastern Europe.

Then again, non-European countries in Africa, Australia and New Zealand would also be affected by expansion of the Common Market.

Negotiations with the target of Common Market membership for a mere four countries will thus have repercussions far beyond Europe. This too is why the talks are being followed attentively and none too happily both by Moscow and by Washington.

The negotiation strategy now taking shape provides for all negotiations — with the four membership candidates, the rump Efta countries and the Commonwealth — to be concluded at the same time.

A comprehensive network of partly multilateral, partly bilateral agreements is to be concluded. It is not merely a matter of a large number of negotiating parties; there is no end to the number of topics on which agreement must be reached and the constitutional consequences for a number of countries are unforeseeable.

What with the slow-moving machinery of such permanent conferences, not to mention the specific difficulties, differences of opinion and, for instance, the reserve shown by the British public towards the whole idea one may well anxiously wonder whether political forces will have the stamina to meet the deadlines envisaged.

The idea would be conclusion of negotiations first with Britain by the end of 1971, a year for ratification procedures and a transition period of about five to seven years. The final links in this bold new European chain could then be forged between 1978 and 1980.

By about the same time the expanded EEC ought to have developed from a customs union to the higher level of an economic and monetary union, with all that that entails.

The Bonn Federal governement, which has consistently advocated expansion of the Common Market, bears a special and immediate responsibility, being the spokesman for the EEC until the end of the year.

The style and working rhythm introduced by Foreign Minister Scheel at Ministerial level and by Ambassador Sachs at deputy level will be here to stay. In politics too habits count for something.

It can only be hoped that the Foreign Minister, who at the urgent request of Economic Affairs Minister Schiller has now at the last minute added the burden of the Brussels negotiations to his many other commitments, will find the time and energy to ensure that the talks take the right course.

Walter Scheel is dependent on the continual consensus of opinion of Common Market members and must, of course, take the wishes of the applicants into account. He must also mobilise the irreplaceable expert knowledge of the European Commission at the right moment.

Britain has come to Brussels with views on negotiation priorities and tempo that are probably more definite than those of the Six at the present juncture.

As regards the difficult matter of agricultural policy, which will soon be reached, all concerned will first and foremost have to base their considerations on what has in fact developed within the Common Market. The problem is that this policy has to a large extent proved a failure.

Can the EEC seriously expect its future partners to allow themselves to be talked into accepting a system by which they have manoeuvred themselves into an ominous position and which would, moreover, impose a disproportionate burden on Britain?

At the same time a start must definitely be made on other topics that will take a long time to discuss — the customs union aspects, for instance. Currency negotiations, involving sterling and debts, will be no less delicate.

Even though it can be assumed that all concerned are politically willing to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion, including reasonable transitional and adjustment agreements, there can still be no certainty of success.

It does, of course, transcend one's political imagination to envisage failure of these negotiations too. Europe has been granted a fresh opportunity, an undeserved one, it might almost be said — of summoning its strength over the forthcoming decade. It is an opportunity that must not be wasted.

Hans Herbert Götz

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 July 1970)

You can join the Big Boys Club soon!

(Cartoon: Fritz Wolf/Kieler Nachrichten)

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Friends in the West back Foreign Minister Scheel wholeheartedly

After talks in Washington with Secretary of State William Rogers and a conversation with President Nixon Walter Scheel talked in terms of this country's allies being in agreement with the targets and procedures of the Bonn Federal government's policy towards the Eastern Bloc.

Views tallied completely, he stated, and he had been assured of full backing in his Moscow negotiations with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

From the point of view of the motives behind the Foreign Minster's visit to London and Washington the outcome could hardly have been more successful.

He has succeeded in gaining demonstrative and full support. This should prove valuable both in dealings with Moscow and on the home front, as the Opposition in the Bundestag will realise.

Agreement on procedures, to use Herr Scheel's own word, is even more fundamental than basic agreement, which was already apparent. This can only mean the link between the Four-Power talks in Berlin and the Moscow negotiations on an agreement renouncing the use of force between this country and the Soviet Union.

Partly but not entirely due to a certain amount of disagreement on this score, occasionally creating the impression that despite general agreement views on specific points differed more than might be expected from the natural divergence of interests.

If the Foreign Minister has been successful in eliminating any such potential bones of contention in his talks with Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Mr Rogers it cannot but be to the benefit of policy as a whole. All would then be clear on the Western front.

Bonn's Foreign Minister now has a sounder basis for his talks in Moscow even though he can hardly know exactly what lies in store for him in the negotiations with Foreign Minister Gromyko.

Herr Scheel will not, in any case, have an easy time of it even if the Soviet Union unexpectedly were to divulge in the Berlin Talks what it might be prepared to concede on Berlin.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 July 1970)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Controlling oil is Moscow's main Mid-East aim

Moscow's proposals for a settlement of the Middle East crisis are evidently intended to divest Israel of a number of trump cards it now holds while in return conceding a number of none too serious improvements on the situation as in 1967.

The proposal for either the UN Security Council, of which the Soviet Union is a permanent member, or the Four Powers guarantee the frontiers is aimed at gaining international blessing, as it were, for Soviet presence in the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

This plan represents the latest stage of a policy intensified since the death of Stalin and including both economic and political elements.

The way was opened for a policy of Soviet infiltration, systematically pursued since 1953, when Nasser in 1952, at that time an apparently minor figure, overthrew King Farouk and began what was, to begin with, cautious progress towards a socialist state coupled with determined opposition to the Communists.

By the end of 1953 there were definite signs of increased Soviet contacts with Middle Eastern countries, which, until the end of the Second World War at least, had mainly been Western-oriented.

These countries were lent political support, arms deals were made and financial and cultural links developed.

Admittedly, relations between Moscow and Nasser, who was recently in the Soviet capital again, have never been entirely trouble-free

Since 1956 Egypt, like Syria and Yemen, has been supplied with arms from the Eastern Bloc but Soviet support for the Kassem regime in Iraq, to which Nasser was opposed, and the Egyptian head of state's attacks on Arab Communists have seriously strained relations between the two countries.

Nasser attempted to stabilise his ties with the United States by declaring himself prepared to accept financial support from Washington and the first signs of a relaxation of tension between Cairo and Moscow did not materialise until May 1959, promptly being honoured by a ninety-million-Mark Soviet loan.

Above all the United States but also Britain failed to grasp what was probably the decisive opportunity of gaining influence in Egypt when in 1956 they refused to aid construction of the Aswan dam.

Realising the economic and further-reaching political possibilities the Soviet Union obliged in a 1,250-million-Mark project of incalculable propaganda value.

The spell was then broken, regardless of further tension between Nasser and Moscow in 1961 on account of the poor treatment of Communists in Egypt and Syria, which at that time formed part of the UAR.

Moscow gave foreign policy considerations precedence over ideological ones, however, and Kassem enabled the Soviet Union to penetrate Iraq. He was promptly rewarded with financial aid to the tune of 451 million Marks.

Jordan did not establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union until 1964 but there could be no doubt that there too, as in other pro-Western countries such as Tunisia, Lebanon and Kuwait, the bacillus of non-alignment – a step in Moscow's direction – was beginning to take effect. In 1967 King Hussein paid his first visit to the Soviet Union.

Since 1954 and 1955 the scope of Soviet military and financial assistance and thus influence in the Arab countries has continually increased. By the time of the Six Days' War in 1967 the Eastern Bloc had offered the Arab countries 19,800 million Marks' worth of aid, half of this for arms purchases.

Only a third of the assistance promised has been given, yet ninety per cent of the arms have been delivered. It will be remembered to what extent the Soviet Union re-equipped the defeated Arab armed forces after the June war, including the provision of a Sam 3 missile system costing an estimated 3,500 million Marks.

As long ago as the 1956 Suez campaign the Soviet Union offered Egypt massive assistance, even nuclear. It is assumed that the hot line between Moscow and Wahington was used to forestall direct Soviet intervention in the Six Days' War.

Although the Soviet Union gave up its submarine base in Vlora, Albania, in 1961 following the establishment of close ties between Albania and China Moscow has since systematically boosted its naval presence in the Mediterranean.

It is not merely a matter of being able to bring military influence to bear. There is also the Arab oil. Oil is not only to be withheld from the West should the need arise; it is also needed to meet growing Soviet and Eastern Bloc requirements and help expand trade with Western Europe.

Since the middle of last year the Russians have by virtue of a treaty with Iraq, the right to help exploit the Rumelia oilfields. The Soviet Union is also building Iraq a port on the Persian Gulf.

The forthcoming British withdrawal from the Gulf will, what is more, create a vacuum that is probably an interesting proposition for Moscow.

There are many indications that Nasser will not have been fully satisfied with the outcome of his recent talks in Moscow. He evidently continues to harbour illusions that do not meet with the approval of the advocates of *realpolitik* in Moscow, who have consistently pursued a long-term strategy.

It is doubtful whether he and his Arab friends will realise that Soviet support for the Arab cause against Israel is less a matter of spreading Communism, to which Moscow would not of course object, than one of specific political and economic advantages. *Georg Gussmann*

(Handelsblatt, 14 July 1970)

Brutality in Saigon – but also in Hanoi and Red China

American democracy has its drawbacks but when it comes to human suffering it can be remarkably effective. Nearly 500 South Vietnamese political prisoners detained in gruesome conditions on an island in the South China Sea have been flown to Saigon and will probably be released because of the hue and cry in the United States caused by the disclosures of two American politicians.

As members of Congress they insisted on investigating rumours according to which the detainees were imprisoned in inhuman tiger cages, holes in the ground covered with cement slabs.

When these dreadful rumours turned out to be true the two men did not hesitate for a moment to point an accusing finger at their South Vietnamese allies in the eyes of the world.

Pilloried by public opinion, the Thieu government yielded. Saigon clearly decided for reasons of common sense rather than humanity to give way to the uproar and disgust in America.

Unfortunately this way of bringing pressure to bear on the inhuman behaviour of Asian governments can only be put into limited effect. Political prisoners in North Vietnam are treated with the same brutality – in Red China too.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 July 1970)

Melina Mercouri to be tried in absentia

Criminal proceedings against absentee defendants are usually decidedly political in nature. The show trial the Greek junta plans to stage against a number of its opponents all over the world is no exception.

The threat to the regime from without represented by Andreas Papandreou, Melina Mercouri and Mikis Theodorakis, differ though they may as individuals, is evidently felt by military to be greater than analysts of the Greek scene have so far felt to be the case.

That these three personalities are to be tried in absentia in the same way as Greek journalists living in this country who make no bones about their feelings towards the regime would seem to lend support to the supposition that the junta feels threatened.

The projected proceedings against Theodorakis are particularly grotesque, the composer only recently having been given the opportunity to leave the country.

In view of recent mopping-up of opposition within the Greek armed forces it is far from impossible that the trials are symptomatic of struggle within the junta itself.

It will soon be seen whether the show trial is intended to paper over differences of opinion within the junta one last time or merely represents a further step on the monotonous ladder of an authoritarian government.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 July 1970)

Consulate agreement with Warsaw

The first talks on the establishment of consular relations between this country and Poland have been concluded in Warsaw. Foreign Ministry officials from the two countries are shortly to meet again.

It may seem regrettable that agreement on extension of the rights of the Federal Republic trade mission in Warsaw and the Polish trade mission in Cologne was not reached in the first round of talks.

The Federal government could well do with some such success in its policy towards the Eastern Bloc, but it is not a question of appearance but of a long-term undertaking, the normalisation of relations between this country and Poland.

Superficial demonstrations would hardly be of benefit for the aim in view. What is needed is an agreement satisfactory to both sides.

It is as well that time is being taken and that negotiations are detailed and protracted. This will serve to prevent later misunderstandings and misinterpretations.

What is important is that the exchange does not come to an abrupt end and on this there can be no doubt. A long-term trade agreement between Bonn and Warsaw has been concluded and political negotiations are shortly to be resumed.

(Handelsblatt, 13 July 1970)

Chancellor Brandt visits Pope Paul

Dignified and ramrod straight, as required by Papal ceremonial, Willy Brandt, bearing the insignia of the Order of Pius, strode through the Vatican state rooms.

The reception given to him by Paul VI on 13 July was decidedly cordial. The public speeches were chilly in contrast. Visitor and host did not begin to thaw until they reached the privacy of the Papal library.

For more than half an hour the Pope, assisted by Eastern Bloc specialist Casaroli, questioned the Chancellor solely about Bonn's policy towards the East in general and the forthcoming Oder-Neisse agreement in particular.

Finally he encouraged Herr Brandt to continue with the present approach. Bonn's chief government spokesman Conrad Ahlers even talked in terms of an agreement to regulate ecclesiastical problems in the East after the treaty between Bonn and Warsaw.

Virtually nothing of all this was reflected in the two men's speeches. The Pope may have talked of building bridges between nations and praised European unification as envisaged by that "great European, Adenauer" but his main topics were education, young people and the family, about all of which he sounded a warning note.

For fear the audience accorded Willy Brandt could be utilised for party political purposes Paul VI canvassed a Christian Democratic-tinged politics, with the result that his guest emphasised Social Democracy more than he had intended doing.

At short notice the Chancellor altered the text of his speech, deleting a mention of sincere understanding between Church and state and incorporating a catalogue of social policy topics ranging from wealth accumulation to workers' participation in management instead.

(DIE ZEIT, 17 July 1970)

An unfortunate error occurred in the picture caption, page one of issue 432 dated 23 July 1970. The last sentence of the caption should have read: Egon Bahr (left), Alexander Vodling, Chancellor Brandt and the governing Mayor of Berlin, Klaus Schütz, at the meeting in Schöneberg Town Hall.

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VIEWPOINT

Adenauer's blinkered successors

Why is there no unity in Bonn on foreign policy any more? Why is there an increasing tendency towards the two-party system? Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation, Erhard Eppler's answer explained at length in the following article is that the CDU cannot face up to the responsibilities of its own policies. The SPD is now having to cope with the heritage of Konrad Adenauer.

In East Bloc policy the Christian Democrat and Christian Social Union parties are looking for outright confrontation at a moment when negotiations are beginning to run more smoothly than many people who knew the bases for these negotiations had expected.

Those who know what is what in the CDU/CSU are just as anxious about the possibility of their endeavours succeeding as they are of their failing!

Just imagine some time in 1971 the once and future Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger standing up in public and declaring that he would like to come to terms with and open negotiations with that phenomenon, that tract of land, which as a nation is non-existent, the other part of Germany! He would be laughed out of court by the whole world, and not he alone.

The CDU/CSU would have only two alternatives – they would have to lose face in this country by carrying on where Brandt left off. Or they would have to cut themselves off completely in the foreign policy sphere.

If, despite this, the battlecry goes up the Federal Republic would be plunged back twenty years in time to the early fifties when there was last a confrontation on foreign policy.

Looking back to those days one thing is clear – Konrad Adenauer's main aim was the speedy integration of the Federal Republic in the West. The SPD was at this time sounding out whether there was a possibility of coming to terms with the other part of Germany, perhaps by foregoing this alliance with the West.

An interesting comment on what happened in those days came on 25 June 1963 when Eugen Gerstenmaier, as President of the Bundestag, greeted President John F. Kennedy in the Paulskirche with the following words:

"The determination and reliability that the United States of America has shown right here in the Federal Republic in its fight for the cause of world liberty is not the cause, but rather the practical prerequisite for the basic reorientation of this country's political thought since the Second World War.

"The cause is the change in the people of this country, our insight into the tragic turn of history as it affects us and our resultant rejection of the ideals and methods of the old, sovereign nation-State.

"*We have intentionally given up any ideas of re-establishing this country as an independent giant standing between the East and the West in favour of building a new and lasting bond of friendship between the countries of Europe and the new world across the Atlantic.*

"In so doing we are achieving more than simply making a virtue out of the misery of defeat."

What this signifies is that:

*1) In the early fifties Adenauer's priorities were, firstly "the lasting community of the nations of Europe and the new world across the Atlantic" and secondarily the unity of the German nation. This was not because he did not want the latter but because the former seemed more important to him.

*2) This decision was not simply a legal one backed by a majority in the Bundestag but was also a legitimate one. In weighing up the opportunities and risks of the two alternatives he came to this conclusion which I have always considered incorrect but politically legitimate.

*3) This decision of Adenauer's is irreversible. No one can wipe it out and no one wants to. Whoever heads the government in Bonn must work from this basis. This was clearly stated by Herbert Wehner in a speech on 30 June 1960.

What is causing politicians today such difficulties is less this decision than the manner in which it was put across – as a step towards German unity. Whatever was to be said in favour of Adenauer's policy it was not this.

All concerned knew that after ratification of the Paris treaties the subject of reunification of Germany would not be considered by the Soviet Union. The Allied Powers since that time have concerned themselves solely with carrying out their duties which have become of diminishing signifiance.

The Social Democrats understood this well and saw no reasonable grounds for the Soviet Union not sticking to their guns. And Konrad Adenauer himself was well aware of the facts of the matter and said so among a small group of intimates on several occasions.

The only ones to turn a blind eye to the facts were those who took literally the points made by Adenauer in his election manifestos for 1953 and 1957. Fifteen years of object lessons have done little to change the situation.

In the course of time there was a complete and grotesque volte face by both sides. The Social Democrats gave increasingly more intensive consideration to how they could secure peaceful co-existence and cooperation between West and East based on Adenauer's decision despite everything, while the CDU clung ever more firmly to the ideal of reunification in direct proportion to the diminishing chances of this becoming reality.

Instead of saying to the people of this country: "We consider this policy necessary in the interests of our security, but you can't have everything!" the CDU/CSU went all out to demonstrate that they had been in favour of reunification from the start.

The origins of the present-day poisoned atmosphere are to be found in the ever-lasting desire for self-justification.

Today the CDU is calling for the situation to be "kept open" while they were the ones who – for reasons which are a bone of contention – fifteen years since went all out to ensure that the situation was kept anything but open.

What was kept open then – the fact that no nation can surrender its right to self-determination – will remain open if the Brandt-Scheel government succeeds in reaching an agreement with the Soviet Union on the renunciation of the use of force.

The political decision, however, that the German people must for a long period live in two separate states was – and I repeat for reasons that are a bone of contention – taken a long time ago.

It is now a question of ensuring – as the CDU/CSU know quite as well as the government – that our Republic should find its place in peaceful Europe, that its significance in the world should not be weakened and neutralised over a long period. For the Federal Republic there are several gateways to the world, including the Third World, that stand open, but only if the words of President Nyerere of Tanzania are heeded: "It is no business of our friends to hunt down our enemies."

The main concern at the moment is not reunification, but the question of whether the Federal Republic as a mature member of the comity of nations is satisfied with this role or whether this country is likely to raise objections on the grounds that it will be admitting that the German Democratic Republic has become a mature nation.

If German policy is not to stumble over itself, if the Federal Republic is not to become incapable of taking action on the foreign policy scene, two factors must be considered:

1. The SPD must leave no doubts that it recognises the political legitimacy of the Adenauer decision.

2. The CDU/CSU must take up a position with regard to its own history. It must cease recognising only the positive achievements of the past twenty years and must lay aside all those negative conclusions that now accompany every political decision it makes.

As far as the SPD is concerned Willy Brandt has fulfilled the first condition. Even in his Berlin days he had far fewer reservations about Konrad Adenauer's policies than many of his party colleagues. He is being honourable in recognising that on 13 August 1961 for him a curtain was drawn back and the stage became empty.

He has no intention of throwing back the CDU/CSU's former policies in their face. Nor can he understand why the Christian Democrats and the Christian Socialists are frightened of their own policies without having a long-term idea of how they can escape from their clutches.

It should not be forgotten that the Weimar Republic collapsed because the German right-wing politicians could not come to terms with the consequences of their own policies.

The Christian Democrat and Christian Social Union parties will have to make up their minds whether they are going to continue along these lines.

They will have to make a firm decision whether they intend to accuse the Chancellor of trying to sell something that is not his – something which the CDU/CSU might once have been able to sell if the price had been right, which for several reasons it was not.

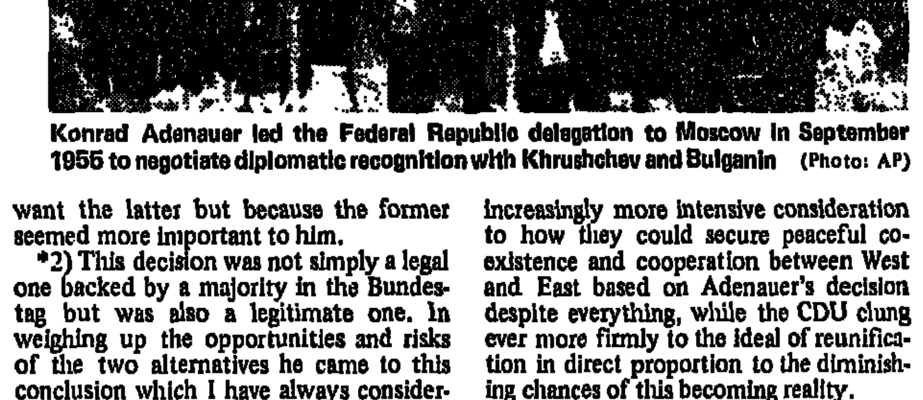
The Christian Democrats and the Christian Socialists trying to escape the clutches of their own history – this has become a ticklish situation for this country.

I know what the answer will be: "We do not need to flee from our own history. There is nothing in it to be ashamed of."

This is my opinion, too.

Erhard Eppler

(DIE ZEIT, 17 July 1970)



Konrad Adenauer led the Federal Republic delegation to Moscow in September 1955 to negotiate diplomatic recognition with Khrushchev and Bulganin (Photo: AP)

The Opposition plays the waiting game

The remarkable attitudes of the right-wing parties to the Brandt government's *Ostpolitik* have been made even more remarkable by a remark made recently!

This time the copyright belongs to someone other than Herr Franz Josef Strauss – this time the perpetrator is the head of the Opposition in Düsseldorf, Heinrich Köppler.

Herr Köppler, speaking to representatives of the foreign press in Bonn, let slip that he considered it would be "problematic" if the Christian Democrats and Christian Socialists came to power again before the present legislative period had come to an end.

The reason for this line of thought is every bit as outspoken as it is revealing: Köppler said that if the Brandt government were toppled before its rightful time this might lead to the emergence of another *stab-in-the-back myth!* This could result in another defeat for the CDU/CSU.

To put it another way – the Christian Democrat and Christian Social Union parties are quite content to leave the full responsibilities of arranging terms with the Communist Bloc to the present Social Democrat/Free Democrat government.

They do not, however, want to take the rap if these negotiations should fail through, although they are working towards this end using all the tactical and rhetorical means at their disposal.

The most recent tactical manoeuvre has been the demand that the Opposition should be represented at the talks with Moscow and that Franz Josef Strauss should be the man to represent them.

In these circumstances it is incomprehensible why Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel never tire of trying to assure us that they would like a representative of the CDU/CSU at the Bonn-Moscow talks.

Their assurances could be interpreted as a sign of indecision, since the Opposition parties are making it quite clear that they will not allow themselves to be utilised simply to "give covering fire on the *Ostpolitik* sortie".

Likewise the Christian Democrat experts are not prepared to accept the draft plan put forward by State Secretary Egon Bahr as the basis for negotiations – they have dubbed this, sparing nothing for dramatic effect, a kind of treaty for the betrayal of the Federal Republic.

Brandt and Scheel would be ill-advised to go on hoping for a "broader basis" for their *Ostpolitik*. They should not stall until the Bahr Paper has been torn to shreds and is no longer an acceptable basis for negotiations even in Moscow's eyes.

A gloating Opposition is waiting for this joyous moment and Köppler uttered the thoughts behind their reasoning: the Opposition wants to wash its hands of the guilt!

B. Brügge

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 10 July 1970)



■ CENTREPIECE

The arguments for and against 'Ostpolitik'

BY PROFESSOR MARTIN KRIELE OF COLOGNE UNIVERSITY

"What does Bonn's Eastern policy offer, if it succeeds, and what are its risks?" Professor Martin Kriele, a lecturer in law at the University of Cologne, attempts to give a reply. The dissertations by Kriele make detailed references to the working paper brought back from his discussions in Moscow by State Secretary Egon Bahr. This is made particularly topical by the recent publication of an unauthorised version of the so-called "Bahr Paper" in the West German press.

What advantages will the Federal Republic enjoy if the government's *Ostpolitik* is blessed with success, and what risks are involved? The general election last autumn gave the public only a fragmentary idea of what to expect from the Brandt government and this has led to the spread of a good deal of uncertainty.

I. The rule that international negotiations are confidential until they have been brought to a conclusion is well founded. If each of the stepping stones towards a final agreement is made public the negotiators on both sides might easily be led to feel that they are bound to keep to these intermediate agreements as a matter of prestige.

The leak of the Bahr paper might result in the Soviet Union refusing to allow any more substantial concessions.

Now that every Tom, Dick and Harry knows the content of the Bahr paper the impression has been given that the precise direction of our negotiations is an open secret. Many commentators interpret the situation as a partial success but one which has not brought the advantage of securing peace. The overall concept of the government's Ostpolitik contains six separate elements which make up the whole.

1. Berlin's position is to be made safer. The current Four-Power talks on Berlin and the negotiations between Bonn and Moscow are to be linked from the outset. The basic idea behind the overall concept is: The communist Bloc will guarantee non-interference with West Berlin, the city's links with the Federal Republic and its access routes. In return we will respect the inviolability of European frontiers (which we could not violate in any event).

For legal reasons the two problems can only be debated around separate negotiating tables. The Four Powers alone are responsible for Berlin. They can, however, only achieve compromises from Moscow in connection with a Federal Republic-Soviet Union renunciation of the use of force agreement.

For our part, as the Soviet Union has known from the outset, the Federal Republic-Soviet Union agreement on the renunciation of the use of force can only be completed after the satisfactory conclusion of the negotiations on Berlin.

As it said in Paragraph One of the Bahr paper the Soviet Union should recognise the "current real situation" and accept at the very least the intimate legal, economic and cultural ties between Berlin and the Federal Republic.

Sovereign rights protected

2. The German Democratic Republic leadership should be urged to make concessions. At the preparatory talks with State Secretary Egon Bahr the Soviet Union stressed that the provisos on the sovereignty of the three Western powers with regard to the Federal Republic and of the Soviet Union with regard to the German Democratic Republic were the prerequisites for the legal idea of the continued existence of "Germany". The "latent idea of a Germany", which does not in fact exist at the moment, is current in both States and so the relationship of one State to the other cannot be discussed in the usual contexts of international law.

The Soviet Union is not calling for the German Democratic Republic to be recognised in international law by the Federal Republic. Therefore, in the long run, the GDR leaders will find it difficult to keep up this demand. Since all are agreed that conclusions reached at negotiations with the various Eastern European nations "form a unified whole" the idea suggests itself that we should wait for the ratification of the Federal Republic-Soviet Union agreement until the German Democratic Republic has formulated satisfactory settlements. There are signs that this state of affairs is no longer being overlooked in East Berlin.

At any rate if the German Democratic Republic attempted further spoiling tactics it would be pushed into further international isolation. If our Ostpolitik foundered on the rocks of domestic policy this could lose us opportunities and lead to greater international sympathy for the German Democratic Republic leadership.

3. German endeavours for self-determination and reunification are to be respected. Of course, self-determination and reunification are not bases for negotiating a treaty an in the present situation the cannot be. But our political claims are no longer considered detrimental to the cause of peace — even by Moscow.

Mutual agreements on the renunciation of the use of force do not run contrary to these endeavours. In order to preclude any doubts and unvertainties it is planned to ask the Soviet Union at the successful completion of negotiations to sign a pledge showing that the Russians understand and accept out interpretation of the situation. In short they accept that self-determination and reunification are compatible with the renunciation of the use of force treaty. This would avoid any possible future misunderstandings and conflicts on how the treaty should be interpreted.

4. The provisos on intervention in articles 53 and 107 of the United Nations Charter are to be quashed as long as the Soviet Union guarantees that it will adhere to the basic principles laid down in article 2 of the Charter in its dealings with the Federal Republic. These include among other things respect of territory, political independence and renunciation of the threat or use of force.

In this respect the "enemy State" clauses are superfluous just as much as they are made superfluous by the declaration of the three Western powers made on 3 October 1954.

The Western powers underlined "that articles 53 and 107 of the United Nations Charter do not grant any rights for any country to undertake unilateral intervention in the Federal Republic employing force" in a statement of 28 November 1969.

With this statement the Western powers have not added to their declaration of the renunciation of the use of force but have simply made clear that in their opinion the Soviet Union cannot unilaterally benefit from the 'enemy state' clauses. It would be superfluous to demand a similar declaration from the Soviet Union taking into consideration the fact that the word "unilateral" is ambiguous and easily twisted.

To expunge the proviso by altering the United Nations Charter would be unsuccessful for practical reasons. This would require a two-thirds majority at a meeting of all members of the United Nations Security Council.

Any attempt to set amendments to the Charter in motion would necessarily involve alterations to other clauses in the Charter. Pursuing such a course would be bound to lead to discruptive controversies. (For example the 'Troika idea' suggested by Khrushchev, and alterations to the organisation of the Security Council).

For this reason no one is prepared at the moment to call for alterations to the United Nations Charter. Last year Japan did attempt to make moves towards the abolilton of the 'enemy state' clauses, but faced with these practical difficulties the Japanese dropped the idea.

5. From the outset the Soviet Union has been trying to make this country invalidate the Munich Agreement. Questions arising in connection with invalidating this agreement should be discussed with Czechoslovakia and lead to a result acceptable to both sides. This understanding was engineered by the explanation that invalidating the Munich Agreement would from the outset lead to certain repercussions concerning the legal position of the Sudeten Germans which would be unacceptable for this country. In this respect it could become a vital factor that political agreements with East Bloc countries should be seen as a unified whole.

6. A peace treaty should not be anticipated. Both sides are agreed that the concord on the renunciation of the use of force would for legal reasons not mean a definitive overall resolution of Federal Republic-Soviet Union problems but would be an intermediate step that would not be a substituted for a future peace agreement.

The rights and responsibilities of the three Western powers with regard to formulating a peace treaty from article 2 of the German Treaty and the political declaration of intent of the three Western powers signed on 3 October 1954 aimed at negotiating a peace treaty and creating a free and unified Germany would remain untouched.

In addition the duty contained in Basic Law to [illegible] for reunification would in no way be limited or [illegible] fringed. In as much as boundaries are not describ[illegible] "fixed" but as "inviolable" there is agreement that [illegible] outcome of freely negotiated decisions boundaries c[illegible] re-drawn.

II. All in all when considering this overall concep[illegible] the Federal Republic's *Ostpolitik* numerous worri[illegible] objections are seen to be unfounded. One of these i[illegible] idea that respecting the inviolability of frontiers wo[illegible] in itself mean the recognition of the German Democra[illegible] Republic in international law, would infringe legal [illegible] tions of the allied powers, would contravene Basic [illegible] and would endanger Berlin.

On the other hand a number of critical questi[illegible] require serious consideration and discussion.

1. Is the *Ostpolitik* making continued peace m[illegible] likely? The government in Bonn and our allies in the West take the view that peace is unstable and threaten[illegible] The possibility of a nuclear war ensuing for reason[illegible] prestige, as a result of a mistake or by accident lea[illegible] to the destruction of mankind should be removed [illegible] removing elements that are likely to lead to such a cri[illegible] Peace is no longer to rest on the fear of deterrents b[illegible] should be backed up by a climate of trust, cooperatio[illegible] and peaceful rivalry of political systems.

Deterrents made obsolete

What this would mean is that with the fear of [illegible] breaking out reduced on both sides deterrents wo[illegible] become superfluous and a programme of disarmam[illegible] could begin. The reduction expected in American [illegible] strength in 1971 is already being viewed as a result [illegible] *Ostpolitik*. It is being predicted that this could lead [illegible] complete withdrawal of American troops. The po[illegible] vacuum that would then arise in Western Europe [illegible] entice the Soviet Union to make an advance to the Atlantic.

It must be stated right away that although reductio[illegible] in the American Forces in the Federal Republic [illegible] likely these would be quite independent of our [illegible] *politik* coming for financial and home affairs rea[illegible] within America. There is not the remotest possib[illegible] that the Americans will surrender their military prese[illegible] at neclear involvement completely. Peace is suppo[illegible] on two legs — a climate of trust and deterrent — and [illegible] is not even a question of shifting the weight from on[illegible] to the other.

What, if anything, might drive the Americans [illegible] isolationism and to a renunciation of their rights and responsibilities for the Federal Republic and Berlin? Certainly not the fact that we support the American President in his policy of "a switch from confrontation to consultation" (quoting President Nixon), but certa[illegible] vexation at any attempt made by this country to dis[illegible] this policy might.

The demand for detente in return for reunification [illegible] peaceful terms (assuming that this country has [illegible] personal interest in it) is certainly a worthy cause in [illegible] Americans' national and freedom-loving motives [illegible] though it does not and cannot do much of a practi[illegible] nature for the German cause. Such a moral and apoli[illegible] stance can only be risked in unavowed trust in the [illegible] knowledge that the USA has not been influenced [illegible] responsibility for world peace. Such a stance does [illegible] politically speaking seem to be completely mat[illegible] Similarly neither did the fight against nuclear armam[illegible] while placing secret trust on America's nuclear shi[illegible] neither did did the anti-America violence in Berlin w[illegible] secretly trusting in the generosity and calm of [illegible] Americans who would not allow this to deter them [illegible] their involvement in Berlin's affairs.

Reducing the danger of a nuclear holocaust that wo[illegible] destroy mankind without fear or favour to either [illegible] takes priority over all other equally justified poli[illegible] aims. The outstanding prestige that Chancellor [illegible] Brandt enjoys as an expert on foreign politics in [illegible] world at large could be said to rest largely on [illegible] recognition of the priorities on a national, European [illegible] international basis. Success for his Ostpolitik would [illegible] lead to confidence in the Federal Republic and wo[illegible] pull the carpet from under dangerous isolationist [illegible] dencies in the United States.

2. Is the feeling for human rights becoming cloude[illegible]

Continued on page 5

■ POLITICS

Communism no longer so dreaded

Those who claim to understand the complex general political opinions of the nation as a whole have reckoned for some time that the present government's German and East Bloc policy is finding far more support among members of the general public than would appear to be so in the Bundestag and as a result of the recent elections for state legislatures.

If a plebiscite were held on the Brandt government's *Ostpolitik* the results would be far more encouraging for the governement than the provincial assembly elections on 14 June were.

Many dyed in the wool Christian Democrat voters approve of this aspect of government policy. On the other hand there will be quite a few long-serving Social Democrat voters who would reject Brandt's *Ostpolitik*.

To prevent any misunderstanding we consider it a good thing and quite in accordance it a good thing and quite in accordance with Basic Law that there are *not* such plebiscites in the Federal Republic.

In their place we have public opinion polls. Recently a lot of gilt has been knocked off the pollsters' gingerbread. Nevertheless some aspects of their work continue to throw light on public feeling. This is particularly so in the case of uncomplicated matters, simple approval or rejection or the gauging of public hopes and fears.

Opinions on Communism and on Ostpolitik, however irrational they may be, are therefore relatively simple to gauge. Sender Freies Berlin (West Berlin Radio) has done just this. In its current affairs programme *Kontraste* it commissioned *Infratest*, public opinion pollsters, to test public reaction on the relationships between East and West. The questions were aimed at discovering public opinion on this country's relationship to the East Bloc nations including the German Democratic Republic, on the German policy of the Brandt government and on questions concerning Communism.



Chancellor Brandt (in background) and State Secretary Egon Bahr whose efforts have revitalised Ostpolitik (Photo: J.H. Darchinger)

The results which came out at the end of 1969 indicate how aware people are in this country of problems concerning our relationship to Communist nations.

It was quickly established that more than half of the people in this country (57 per cent) are of the opinion that Communism is and will remain in the future "the greatest threat to Western democracy".

Further analysis showed that opinions differ widely on this subject between the potential voters of the various parties and there is in fact an even greater divergence in the various social groups that make up our society.

Communism is the greatest danger for Western democracy according to 49 per cent of Social Democrat voters, 53 per cent of Free Democrat voters, 69 per cent of Christian Democrat and 86 per cent of Christian Social Union supporters.

It is striking that 66 per cent of unskilled workers consider Communism a major threat but only 31 per cent of people who have Abitur (school leaving certificate).

The survey continued by asking whether in the course of the next twenty years living conditions in West and East will grow together. Forty-nine per cent of SPD voters said yes, but only 13 per cent in the CSU camp. Whereas 68 per cent of people with the Abitur thought it likely, skilled workers (43 per cent them) and unskilled labourers (30 per cent) were largely sceptical of such a development.

Further questioning underlined these feelings towards Communism. More than half of SPD supporters and more than two thirds of CDU voters would not like to live in a communist country in any circumstances. Sixty-one per cent of unskilled labourers would not like to be "red", 63 per cent of those with *Mittlere Reife* (school diploma) found Communism unacceptable, but among those with a university education the figures was only 43 per cent.

Infratest researchers dicovered that in 1969 there was an increasing interest in this country's East Bloc policy. They noted a breakdown of people's defence mechanisms and a more positive attitude to the government's intention to get on better terms with communist states.

The motives for there hopes are interesting. By far the greater majority consider that this will open up new economic spheres and provide the country with new markets. This is particularly so among FDP voters (64 per cent) and least true in the CSU camp.

Secondary to this comes the hope that better relations with the East could lead to an easing of world political tension. The third reason given by people questioned in the survey was that it could make life more pleasant for people in the German Democratic Republic. The final reason given was that it might lead to a united Europe.

Interesting answers were given to question about what grounds there were for people's fears and anxieties. One question asked was whether this country by improving its contacts with the East Bloc nations would fall between two stools. Only 21 per cent feared this. Sixteen per cent thought that it could lead to this country comming under communist influence. The breakdown on this figure is 31 per cent of SPD voters, 20 per cent FDP and 21 per cent of CSU sympathisers.

Hans Heigert

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 July 1970)

Continued from page 4

Does detente mean coming to terms with injustices and renunciation of the right of self-determination? Would this not create a climate of cynicism with regard to values in which communist oppression is seen as different from but no worse than the Western constitutional State? Are we not robbing Freedom of its moral and political impact on the East? Are we not unprooting our own tradition of freedom?

The objections contained in these questions deserve to be taken more seriously than they generally are. Even if the morals contained in them were merely abstract and of no factual value they would be justified questions as balancing forces against the purely pragmatic form of politics if they did not oust these politics altogether.

The world would be a much worse place if no one expounded the idealism of morals versus politics. There is a certain pragmatic sense in a passionately conducted moral fight for human rights and this can have practical effects. For the oppressor the isolation that he could expect as a result is not without value in his political calculations. For his victims there would come encouragement and consolation in the knowledge that there is sound backing from humane sources and his will to defend a constitutional system conducive to liberty would be strengthened.

There are three things to be taken into consideration. Firstly: the fact that anti-Communism has in the last decade been discredited to a great extent has not come about as a result of a lack of human understanding or a sense of reality but because anti-Communist arguments have been abused in order to pursue irrational policies that run contrary to detente. Only this kind of abuse has brought about a situation in which critics of Communism have had to pull their punches.

The motives for this restraint have been purely political and have not meant in any way any lessening of involvement of movements for liberty. In its effect, however, this restrain may in certain circles have actually contributed to Communism being made harmless. If *Ostpolitik* were to succeed this restraint would become unnecessary. Friendly rivalry of political systems will probably lead to human rights gaining in moral and political force rather than losing it.

Secondly: the suppresion of freedom fighters in Hungary and in Czechoslovakia and the act of cooping up the citizens of the German Democratic Republic behind walls, minefields and trenches, all happened in the twenty years before the new Bonn government's *Ostpolitik*. The sense of values with morals above politics then obtaining did nothing to stop all this. The question whether things would have been so bad if the balance between politics and morals had been more even can only be raised here warily.

And finally: making East-West peace, at present based on deterrents, more secure with a climate of trust is, if we are really concerned about human beings, a top-ranking demand of world politics, which must be made to accord with the fight for human rights but should not simply be superseded by it.

3. Will the Soviet hegemony over Eastern Europe be strengthened? Some concern has been expressed that the government in Bonn has been conducting talks with the Soviet Union on the inviolability of frontiers that are not frontiers of the Soviet Union but of its neighbouring countries. From a political point of view, however, this is just as insignificant as the reverse situation where the Soviet Union negotiates with this country on the inviolability of the Oder-Neisse line.

The fact that the Russians discuss this frontier with the Federal Republic does not mean that they grant us any sovereign rights over GDR territory. Equally we do not recognise that the Soviet Union has any legislative authority over Poland. At a prospective European security conference Western European nations would most certainly want the United States to be present without thereby renouncing any of their sovereignty.

The supremacy of the Soviet Union over Eastern Europe would be rather reduced than strengthened by a treaty guaranteeing the inviolability of European frontiers. The reason is that the fear of German revanchism which has led to Eastern European nations relying heavily on the Soviet Union would be reduced. Moreover our negotiations with the Soviet Union do not substitute for negotiations with Poland, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic.

The fact that our agreements with various East Bloc countries are to form a unified whole does not signify recognition of the Soviet hegemonial system but rather maker our ratification of the individual bilateral agreements dependent on satisfactory and successful conclusions of the other remaining negotiations.

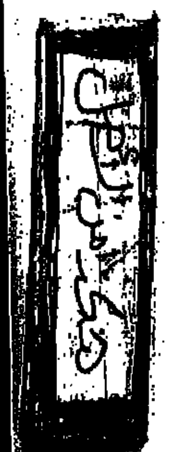
The impression that treaties between the Soviet Union and the other East Bloc countries will be included in this "unified whole" was created by a falsification in *Bild Zeitung*. In this paper when it published the Bahr paper, in point five the words "entsprechendes Abkommen" (der Bundesrepublik Deutschland) — corresponding agreements "of the Federal Republic" — were omitted. By means of this alteration it was possible for *Bild Zeitung* to maintain that the Bahr paper accepted the entire Soviet hegemonial system.

4. Is it worth paying for peace with the East Bloc if the price involves polanisation within this country? In the common interest should we not renounce the new *Ostpolitik*? Whatever answer people like to give to these questions they need no discussion as long as fuel is being added to an already highly-charged climate. And this is being done by irresponsible demogogues raising cries of "sell-out", and by journalists in the popular press and in television current affairs programmes and illustrated weeklies, who do not carry out sufficient groundwork and research into the intricate problems, spreading false information, giving misleading interpretations and publish secret documents for all to see.

The nation can only stand united behind those who clearly give priority to national interests above party political concerns. It would be a catastrophe for our democracy if the modus operandi that has become common in recent times was encouraged by political successes.

Bowing to necessity is not exactly unity but just facing the facts. In this alone lies the opportunity for us to find our way back to general agreement on foreign policy. An essential part of this would be improved public relations on the part of the government in Bonn so that without undermining the confidential nature of negotiations the man in the street would be given a good idea of the overall concept, its place in international affairs and the benefits it would bring to the nation.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 July 1970)



DRAMA

State subsidised theatres lack flair and public appeal



Theatres dominate the cultural landscape in this country. Almost every town with over 100,000 inhabitants has its own municipal theatre. Even the smallest provincial towns have visits from touring companies, both commercial and state-subsidised, which perform the Classics and, more recently, contemporary plays with all the social criticism that involves.

Provincial Assemblies and the cultural authorities give large subsidies to satisfy the theatrical tastes of a small minority. Aid increases every year and amounts at present to some 400 million Marks a season.

Over 200 state-subsidised, municipal and private theatres throughout the Federal Republic open their doors to the public every evening.

They may not have exhaused the potential of those who want to act, but there are fewer and fewer people who can act. They have exhaused the interest of theatre-goers and potential theatre-goers.

The number of theatre-goers went down by a quarter of a million in the 1967-68 season. Provisional estimates for the 1968-69 season show that there were some 100,000 fewer seats sold. Figures for the season just ending will probably reveal an even poorer attendance at theatres in the Federal Republic.

Our theatres are marketing and servicing industries as well as producers of art. That means that they must do well in selling their artistic products in spite of high subsidies.

They therefore depend on the public who pay their own respectable contribution of between five and sixty Marks per seat per performance to justify the generous public assistance as a genuine cultural necessity.

This paying public wants satisfaction. It makes its demands. But these demands remain unknown, unexamined and unanalysed.

The theatre complacently ignores audiences considering them to be an applauding, booing or passive, on the whole indifferent and homogenous mass that is incapable of deciding what it likes best and must therefore be led by the hand and told what is true entertainment, art or social criticism. The theatre director makes his own plan, which he considers logical, and brooks no compromise.

Even worse than this complacent security is the more frequent and more convenient practice of familiarity. Such theatre directors adopt the handy, though impolite belief that a large repertoire of plays will contain something for everyone.

They then carelessly serve up a higgledy-piggledy mixture of the Classics, the fashionable and the triffling. This piecemeal repertoire is a cross between routine obligation and cultivated boredom.

Clouds are slowly but surely spreading across the face of Western culture. The eternal values of the old theatre are losing their worth.

Even those theatres that try to steer an even course between tradition and modernity, edification and entertainment no longer attract the public. The stars that gave these theatres their splendour are dead and buried.

Their exclusiveness was destroyed by television and daily aquaintance with the performer's art through this medium.

All the nuances of acting, gesture, and understatement have been seen through as they are so obvious. They have lost their power to fascinate.

Can our theatre escape the Scylla and Charybdis of enlightenment and entertainment? This question of existence is not being discussed here at the moment.

And so our theatre continually reproduces itself. Attempts to renew it by adopting a political repertoire, including plays calculated to shock or making internal organisation more democratic only to delay the urgent changes to the whole structure of our theatre system.

This system functions so perfectly and appears so solvent that it can occasionally afford the luxury of producing its own refutation.

These are performances of extreme aesthetic and political power that are made in opposition to the dominating rules of production and therefore against consumers too.

But the number of these refutations are decreasing alarmingly. Among the ten most interesting performances of the season selected by a jury and invited to the Berlin Theatre Gathering, there were only two productions that were thought to have any outstanding quality by the audiences and critics who did not belong to the jury.

Only two works in one season from more than 2,000 productions have outstanding qualities. This is a depressing situation.

The objection that the jury could have arrived at a better selection without so many flops only confirms that dramatic criticism in this country is in a desolate state.

But is does not hide the fact that our theatre cannot produce anything of great aesthetic importance or striking social significance and is not even able to humour its regular subscribers, or the consumer class as it complacently considers it. What is the solution?

Actors, directors and producers demand more participation within the system. A share in decision-making is the current slogan.

They want to limit the sphere of responsibility enjoyed by the theatre manager and have a more democratic organisation on the artistic side of the theatre.

They call themselves "theatre producers" without realising that this term as they use it would include the playwright, technicians, the administration and, last but not least, the audience.

Theatre does not merely mean that producers in the strict theatrical sense produce productions and that actors produce themselves.

It is the two-way effect between performance and audience. Theatre does not happen because people show something or only themselves but because several people want to participate.

Although they act as though they are progressive, our *theatre producers* mark time. For them democratisation is simply creating even more private privileges for themselves in the privileged system of the subsidised theatre.

Instead of being subject to the omnipotence of the theatre manager and the dominance of the producer, they want to be involved in decisions on who is to fill the post of manager, on what plays are to be performed and on what the idea behind the production is to be. They no longer want to be responsible for their own role alone.

In practice it has its disadvantages. The young star actor Michael König was engaged to take part in the premiere of Martin Walser's *Kinderspiel*. But after a few days rehearsing he found that the play did not conform to his political ideals.

He said that he no longer wanted the part and withdrew. The premiere had to be abandoned and the theatre had to bring forward another play, with all the difficulties that involved, to satisfy its regular subscribers who already had tickets for the evening.

If this falsely understood conscientious objection becomes the fashion and one actor leaves the cast because he finds the play too reactionary and, the next day, an actress drops out because it is too anarchistic, audiences will be able to consider themselves lucky if they get to see at least one or two premiers a year at a theatre that receives six million Marks a year in subsidies.

Even the most patient patron would soon come to the conclusion that theatre could manage on a far lower subsidy if the number of new works were so severely curtailed.

The dilemma is obvious. Our theatres and audiences are going in different directions. A new audience cannot be found anywhere.

But the machinery of production is in top gear and the authorities are paying for the hectically turning theatre roundabout even if it is running idle.

Devotion to culture is most conveniently demonstrated by going to the theatre. It is a well functioning safety valve and provides alibis.

The necessary changes, campaigns, revolts and revolutions are consumed as a pleasure via the theatre and, when the audience is used to the acted ones, successfully neutralised by boredom. The publically subsidised theatre machine thus deadens the desire for the theatre.

The number of feudal theatre buildings increase from year to year but the attendance figures decline in inverse proportion to the available seating accommodation.

Educational theatre, plays meant to shock, scenic agitation and artistic diversion are all equally boring. They usually turn to an audience that is not so uniform or so indistinguished as is blindly assumed. Material must give them better information and be more direct.

Our theatrical landscape is even and without tension. There are no centres. Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, Cologne, Frankfurt, Hanover, Bochum, Mannheim, Kassel, Detmold, Bruchsal and Tübingen are interchangeable. The landscape disappears into arbitrariness and emptiness.

What can the touring rural theatres, the medium-size municipal theatres do? Off-the-peg suits made to measure, unproductive luxuries.

But are the small provincial towns the breeding ground for future actors and actresses? They are expensive schools where talent is no longer encouraged but humdrum performers mass-produced.

What we need are theatre centres, towns with several competitive theatre ensembles that can specialise on one particular section of the public.

A repertoire shared out between the Classics, modernists and the trifling, the provincial theatre of feudal days, is passé.

Günther Schab

(CHRIST UND WELT, 10 July 1970)

'Richard III' and 'Amphitryon' open Bad Hersfeld festival

William Shakespeare's *Richard III* and Peter Hacks' *Amphitryon* opened the twentieth Bad Hersfeld Festival this year. The one work was the cynical power game of an uninhibited person and the other a bitter comedy of the no less cynical game of gods with men.

Reinhold K. Olszewski of Buenos Aires had already been responsible for some effective productions in the monastery ruins here before turning to Richard III, his first production of the Classics in Bad Hersfeld.

His control of the extras was superbly effective and he organised the space between nave and choir by using it as part of the scene.

But the play slipped from his grasp at the same time as Hans Korte in the lead role did.

Shakespeare's Richard used his superior intelligence to play with men. Korte played with his role, lost all contact with the other actors, isolated himself and so only showed the audience the actor Hans Korte.

He did this like a virtuoso, in great detail and with plenty of gags. But his Richard resembled a small-time trickster taking his chances as they came along.

Korte appeared as a coarse comedian enjoying Richard's talents of controlling his fellow-men. And the figure lost weight.

Not even actors like Hans-Gerd Kübel as Buckingham and Hansgeorg Laubenthal as Hastings came to life in this production.

With Heinz Ludwig's colourful costumes the whole production was aimed at effect. The execution scenes that do not occur on stage in the original involuntarily took on comic features.

Volker Lechtenbrink and Fritz Nydegger as the two hired murderers deserve special praise for their joviality.

Günther Fleckenstein's production of Peter Hacks' *Amphitryon* followed on the second evening. This work, premiered in Göttingen in February 1968, is an impudent variation of the old Greek myth.

Jupiter, the head of the gods, descends to a beatiful mortal and sires a son who is human but whose name Heracles will be immortalised by his deeds.

It is a clearly constructed, amusing play that impresses through its colourful dialogue. The third and last act is sparse on action but Hacks here muses on the sense of existence in this world of ours with a certain charm and wit.

Towards the end of the play, Jupiter consoles Amphitryon with the words: "The realisation that he is not yet god makes the human more human."

In his production in the Munich Cuvilliés theater in 1969 Fleckenstein had set the play in a bare circus arena surrounded by the opulent rococo of the actual building.

In Bad Hersfeld he dispensed with scenery. Only Amphitryon's ship was hinted at with a railing and a mast.

On other occasions Fleckenstein relied on Hacks' own power of expression, the effect of the large playing area and the acting abilities of the performers.

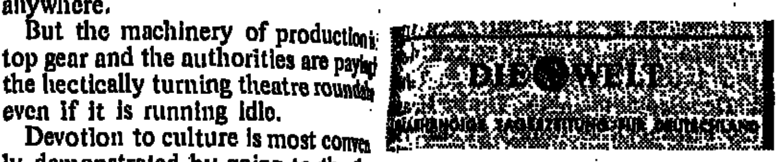
He was successful. The production was of a high standard. Fleckenstein himself is the one who deserves the laurels. He has taken the decisive step of making his actors speak painstakingly and accurately.

Hermann Dannecker

(Kieler Nachrichten, 8 July 1970)

THINGS SEEN

Gothic art exhibitions at Cologne and Karlsruhe



Once again the Rhineland has been able to prove that as an artistic area of the world it is highly integrated.

Those who are taking a summer holiday in the Rhineland can see this for themselves at two outstanding exhibitions, one in Cologne and the other in Karlsruhe. These exhibitions give an example of the quality of the works of art produced in the Rhineland in the late Gothic period.

In Cologne's Kunsthalle all forms of pictorial art are on display. Only architecture had to be overlooked for obvious reasons. The exhibition is confined to original works and it would have spoilt the tone to represent architecture by means of plans, photographs, drawings or models.

The exhibition in Cologne comprises around six hundred works that have been loaned by museums, churches and private collectors in eight countries.

One or two museums that were approached for works to be lent refused. Above all the Alte Pinakothek in Munich is to blame for spoiling the intentions of the exhibition organisers. More than a quarter of the art of old Cologne has found its way into Munich's Alte Pinakothek.

The organisers in Cologne were extremely disappointed that they could not fulfil their aim of bringing back this art to the area in which it originated.

Nevertheless the exhibition has no real gaps. All the greatest old masters are represented. These range from Stefan Lochner, whose two metre (six feet six inch) high tableau *Mutter Gottes mit dem Veilchen* (The Mother of God with the Violet) greets visitors to the exhibition to Bartholomäus Bruyn whose works mark the transition period to the Renaissance.

For the people of Cologne a great attraction is the *Ursula Martyrium* which has been lent by the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The background to this picture shows the city of Cologne in late mediaeval times. This is the most exact picture known of Cologne as it was at this time.

The period 1450 to 1530 is well covered by the exhibition. There are some fine examples of stained glass from this epoch and even the Cathedral in Cologne has lent some specimens to the exhibition.

Apart from this there are implements, clothes, furniture, stoneware, gold-work, emblems from the archery groups of the guilds, coins, seals, sketches and written and printed books.

Even music is not omitted. Music by Guillaume Dufay is offered to visitors on record along with the exhibition catalogue.

The curator of Cologne museums, Gert von der Osten, considers this exhibition, whose patron is the International Museum Committee (ICOM), as an event of great importance for Cologne.

The exhibition closes on 27 September.

W. Schulze-Reimpell

* * *

The standards and worldwide importance of the late Gothic period on the Upper Rhine were set by its painters. There were Martin Schongauer's Breisach frescos, Albrecht Dürer's early illustrations, Hans Baldung Grien's high altar in Freiburg, Matthias Grünewald's Isenheim altar in Colmar and the works of Konrad Witz and Hans Holbein the Elder — a concentration of artistic genius in the area between Basle, Strasbourg and Freiburg in the years immediately before and after 1500.

So great was the output of this period in this area that it is easy to see that an exhibition of late Gothic painting would be almost impossible to organise.

The Baden state museum in Karlsruhe was therefore only being realistic when it decided that the exhibition *Spätgotik am Oberrhein* should be limited to sculpture, handicrafts and a few small sketches.

The result is that the museum has created an exhibition that succeeds in giving a clear idea of the most important aspects in the development of art in the late Gothic and early Renaissance periods such as has never been seen before.

Four hundred and sixty-five works are on loan to the museum from all over western Europe and the United States.

The style of art that was created in this area at this time was more than just lateGothic — it signified a whole change in people's outlook on life at a time when revolutionary changes were rife.

For the first time it was cities and not royal courts, churches and monasteries that were the centres of art production. This was by no means just coincidental. The art that began to make its appearance around 1430 was a bourgeois art, a city art.

This art still kept the basic impulses and inspirations of early Gothic, particularly religious subjects, but it was al ready finding inspiration in other great masters.

One of the most important centres of this art was Strasbourg.The city had the Dutchman Niclaus Gerhaert within its walls for four years.



Cologne in 1499 in an extract from 'The Martydom of Saint Ursula' lent by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London (Photo: Katalog)

This is a comparatively short space of time, but it was sufficient to give the plastic arts in the Upper Rhine area and later on in Vienna a new, decisive and long-lasting impulse.

Looking at Gerhaert's figures, done in Strasbourg amid all the other Madonnas, saints and crucifixions it becomes clear what revolutionary changes he wrought.

He specialised in busts and this typifies his art. But what is even more decisive in the fascinating expressiveness of the faces he sculpted.

Among those influenced by Gerhaert were Heinrich Iselin who turned this influence into eccentric and precious effects, and Hans Wydyz, who is thought to have come from Meissen, but who did his greatest work in Freiburg and Strasbourg and emphasised the more attractive and ornamental side of Gerhaert's work.

Another follower of Gerhaert, Niclaus Hagenower from Strasbourg worked on the portrait-like features streching them almost to the point of caricature.

But the perfection of late Gothic art was achieved by an artist who even today is still unidentified and known only as Meister H.L. It is thought that he came from Austria or at least worked there at some time.

He created his most important pieces in Breisgau including the *Adam and Eve* group that is still a source of many disputes about origin and shows signs of the approaching Renaissance and the Breisach and Niederrotweiler altars.

These are examples of that last and most extreme development that is sometimes rather unfortunately dubbed "Barockgotik".

This style is filled with complicated intertwining forms and shows incomparable dynamism of movement and counter-movement.

Amid all these works of a century which are described in detail by the catalogue we should not forget the many examples of craftsmanship from this period on show in Karlsruhe — the chalices and crucifixes created by the goldsmiths, the coins and seals and above all the enchanting tapestries.

The exhibition in Karlsruhe continues until 5 October.

J. Buschkiel

(DIE WELT, 8 July 1970)

Cultural exchanges are essential part of development aid

Another unusual accent will be given to the Ruhr Culture Festival in Recklinghausen as it enters its final phase. The festival is to be visited by 130 dancers and musicians from India, Thailand, Pakistan and Indonesia.

This "Encounter with Asia" has been made possible by political and financial backing from the Federal Ministry of Development Aid, which is for the first time making a concrete gesture towards the cultural side of development aid programmes.

Development Aid Minister Erhard Eppler is holding a reception in the foyer of the Festspielhaus on 10 July in connection with the appearance of the Kathakali dance troupe from India.

Herr Eppler considers this programme at the Recklinghausen festival an important part of his plans to correct the former misconception that economic growth is the sole criterion of a successful development aid programme.

Certainly improved economic figures say a lot for the development of a young country, but the overall plan of aid to Third World countries is to help them develop a society capable of surviving on its own.

Part of this concept must necessarily be a mutual understanding by both the giving and receiving country of customs and traditions in the culture of both countries.

In this respect Erhard Eppler's Ministry is in agreement with the outline of foreign culture policies sketched by Ralf Dahrendorf.

An attempt is being made at Recklinghausen to show a representative selection of the many aspects of traditional Asian art. No one is pretending that this festival could do justice to all the many aspects.

Apart from the State-organised representatives there are private groups such as the dance group from Bali. This group had to be forced to accept payment. They plan to use their fee to build a school.

This "Encounter with Asia" is not confined to the song and dance evenings of the final week of the festival. Aspects of it have permeated the whole of the Ruhr Festival.

There has been an exhibition of travel photographs by Karl Pawek, entitled "Asia — tradition and progress" on show at Recklinghausen.

The science week was organised along the lines: "on the way to a *unified* world". This was devoted mainly to questions concerning Asia. This exhibition was opened by Heinz Kühn, who stressed the conflict between North and South in the world, which is a threat to peace and symbolises "the transformation of class warfare".

In addition to this there have been film seminars. A heated discussion ensued about the image of Asia presented by television programmes about it shown in the West.

Filipinos, who are among the top jazz musicians in Asia, will perform their kind of music along with Federal Republic colleagues at the seventieth Norddeutscher Rundfunk (NDR television) Jazz Workshop.

The many programmes put on at Recklinghausen are disigned to show that development aid can only flourish when it involves cultural exchanges and these are prevented from getting into a one-way rut.

Time will tell how successful the Ruhr Culture Festival at Recklinghausen has been in putting across this message to industrialised nations and Third World countries alike and just who has heeded the message.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 9 July 1970)



■ EDUCATION

Streamed pupils show marked learning improvement with new teaching method

Teachers face completely new problems caused both by the immediate post-war bulge and the fact that attending high school is no longer the privilege of the specially talented.

Two teachers from Göttingen dealt with the problem of how to treat a large mass of pupils fairly.

Peter Seidensticker and Gerhard Gerlin wrote a book entitled *Have Grammar Schools still a Chance?* which reveals the direction in which they are aiming.

Of course they give grammar schools a chance, always providing that they prove adaptable in the face of new requirements.

As a total reform would demand a long time span to be put into practice as well as extra money and personnel (that are lacking), they looked for a solution that would be of immediate and effective help.

The two teachers then began to test the methodic differentiation proposed in their book in their own particular spheres. Gerling is a scientist and Seidensticker a linguist.

Peter Seidensticker based his work on the conviction that school years should be arranged into streams based on talent and performance as soon as possible, though not over-hastily.

He and three colleagues taught English to the first form. During this year the pupils could be closely observed so that they were then correctly streamed into four classes – group A for the best, group B for those with good performances, group C for the satisfactory and group D, the weakest class.

The four teachers were in constant contact with one another and taught the same material in the four groups, but in different ways so that every pupil in every group would respond.

By the end of the school year all pupils had reached the standard set for their group. Those who had shown no interest in the subject before responded to the material while the most talented were not bored by constant repetition of various groups of questions.

Performance often drops during middle school years. It was therefore a special challenge for Gerhard Gerling to test the new method on the fouth form. Together with two mathematics teachers he re-organised three classes totalling 92 girl pupils into three groups based on standard.

After a short time it was plain that private study by girls in groups A and B was increasing. Teachers too liked the new method as it relieved them of the difficulty of having to teach an amorphous mass with a uniform method.

The success described by Gerlin also appears convincing to non-mathematicians when they learn that the theorems of Pythagoras and Euclid were treated differently in the three groups.

Group A worked out several methods of their own to prove the theorems while group C learnt and understood the simplest proof.

After six months of teaching, the three mathematicians saw with satisfaction that 47 per cent of their girls had improved their standard by at least one grade. At the end of the year the figure had risen to 52.2 per cent.

Under the traditional method practised the previous year the fourth-form improvement figure was no higher than 15.5 per cent while 34 per cent of the girls had declined in standard.

When using the system of methodic differentiation only 17.6 per cent declined in standard, an unusually low figure for the middle school levels.

At first parents viewed the experiment with some scepticism. but then saw that they did not need to help their daughters with their homework.

The poorer girls became far more self-confident than they had been before. Despite the division in groups of varing standard the girls did not feel humiliated in any way as they could develop within the groups and there was always the stimulus of rising to a higher group if their performances improved.

A survey revealed that eighty per cent of the girls found this type of teaching to be more advantageous. 89.1 per cent wanted to see methodical differentiation extended to other subjects as the wish for individual treatment was stronger than the connection to a school-year that was not so firm as had been believed previously.

A decisive factor in the success of this type of teaching was the change in attitude of the pupils. They had become more interested in the work at hand.

With this experimental teaching method that is so easy to implement Seidensticker and Gerling seem to have found a method that other teachers can use if their schools are large enough for dividing a school year into at least three groups.

One important condition for success is a coordinated timetable so that one teacher can take two groups at the same time if one of his colleagues is ill. This means that no valuable time is lost.

The method tested in Göttingen showed gratifying results without greater use of additional personnel, even though the individual teachers were asked to work a little more intensively. An hour a week was long enough for conferences between the teachers.

The Seidensticker-Gerlin method does not involve any additional expense by the State.

Parents too are happy, as they now need to give little help with homework and their children are no longer threatened with repeating a whole year.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 6 July 1970)

Concert receipts pay for grants

Eleven students, four from the United States and seven from the Federal Republic have received grants from the *Deutsch-amerikanische Studienhilfe*, an organisation to help students that was set up in April in Berlin by representatives of both countries.

Most of the money for the grants came from a charity concert held in Berlin's Philharmonic Hall under the patronage of Ambassador Rush of the United States and Klaus Schütz, govering Mayor of West Berlin. Additional donations were also made.

The grants were awarded to students selected from lists put forward by some thirty American univerisites and by various bodies in this country.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 July 1970)

States gradually ban corporal punishment in schools

Thick files have accumulated in the Bavarian Archives over the past twenty-five years concerning corporal punishment.

These include a statement from the Bavarian Provincial Assembly recorded April 1965: "During Question time Social Democrat member Horst P... told the Provincial Assembly of the case of an elementary school teacher who punished 28 boys and girls last year caning their bottoms and hitting them in the face and about the head with his hand, mainly because of poor school performance. One boy's nose bled and another had to visit the doctor."

State-sanctioned bodily harm, as the *Abendzeitung* put it, is now to be abolished in Bavaria's elementary schools. Education Minister Ludwig Huber has ordered that corporal punishment will be abolished from the beginning of the 1970-71 school year.

Hesse and Berlin had forbidden corporal punishment a long time before Bavaria. Other Federal states to have abolished it recently are Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palatinate, Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg.

Regulations on corporal punishment have been modified in other Federal states.

Bavaria had led all Federal states, except Hesse, on this issue. The decision now made is a belated victory for Social Democrat Education Minister Fr... Fendt who banned corporal punishment in June 1946.

But a year later Education Minister Alois Hundhammer, a member of the Christian Social Union (CSU) and a moralist, restored corporal punishment.

Twelve merry years of caning ... the land of the Bavarians before ... regulations in 1959 abolished corporal punishment for boys and girls in the ... two classes and stated that corporal punishment was justified only when other measures and punishments had ... ed.

This was considered to be a great step forward and progressives were consoled with the fine phrase that the abolition of corporal punishment was to be pursued as an educational aim.

Eleven more years of caning passed in Bavaria. Corporal punishment provoked increasing political discussion. Social Democrats, the trades unions, the Humanist Union and parents' associations repeatedly demanded its complete abolition.

The CSU and the Bavarian Teachers' Association wanted to retain medieval conditions as long as possible.

A stir was caused in 1964 by the *Caning Report* of Munich psychologist and educationalist Professor Löckert, ... said that some eighty per cent of pupils in the upper classes of Bavarian elementary schools get the cane or a ... from the teacher at one time or another.

Not all pupils need fear corporal punishment. Teachers may hit their charges in elementary, though not in secondary schools.

This state of affairs – "Official ... policy in Bavaria considers ... methods to be suitable in elementary schools" – prompted Social Democrats in the Provinicial Assembly to new action in March 1969.

Five months before the next election to the Provincial Assembly the CSU Education Minister has decided that action is the best means of defence.

24 years after corporal punishment was first abolished in Bavaria, Huber has confirmed that it is now time to abolish corporal punishment.

Kilian Gassner

(DIE ZEIT, 10 July 1970)

■ SCIENCE

Proteins and professors more important than protest at Lindau congress

Some students tried to make the twentieth Nobel Prizewinners' Congress at Lindau, the seventh to be devoted to chemistry, into a platform for left-wing views and invited the participants, including prizewinners, to a political discussion.

This attempt, made after a lecture, failed. Young and old students and scientists preferred to discuss the structure of insulin with Oxford Professor and Nobel Prizewinner Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin. Her lecture on the subject immediately before had been a fascinating mixture of majestic expertise and personal charm.

The audience's reaction to the students' move underlined the purpose of these congresses more plainly than any words could.

Looking back on twenty years of congresses at Lindau during the opening ceremony, Professor Werner Forssmann said that they planned to present Nobel Prizewinners not only as examples for coming academic generations but also as people with all their strengths and weaknesses.

They were also planned to show how Nobel Prizewinners worked, what they worked on and how they had got their ideas.

Modern chemistry has long passed the stage of using relatively crude methods and yardsticks to register reactions occuring between more or less fixed original and final states.

Like physics, it tries to investigate details more thoroughly and learn about all the processes that occur during reactions of this type.

This was demonstrated by a whole series of lectures at Lindau. Making the content of some of these lectures understandable to the layman would have been a vain task.

Handelsblatt

Professor Robert S. Mulliken of Chicago, for instance, spoke of recent studies of iodine molecules, Professor Nikolai N. Semenov of Moscow lectured on chemical chain reactions with energetic ramifications and Professor Lars Onsager of New Haven, Connecticut, dealt with proton semi-conductors.

Professor Ronald G.W. Norrish of Cambridge gave a lecture on investigations into some organic photochemical reactions with the help to kinetic spectroscopy.

Professor George Porter enlarged upon this subject in one of the most scientifically and rhetorically brilliant talks ever to have been given at a Lindau congress.

He spoke about chemistry in the nanosecond range, the study of those chemical changes and interim amalgamations that occur for a fraction of a second during the course of a chemical reaction.

With the help of flashes of light from pulsating lasers and absorption spectroscopy, "light" has already reached such stages of reaction that can only be measured in nano-seconds (one thousand millionths of a second). It can already be forecast that chemistry will also master time spans as short as one billionth of a second.

Professor Harold O. Urey's report on evidence concerning the moon's structure was of extremely topical importance. He said that it was a firmly established fact that the moon's surface was completely different 4,600 million years ago.

3,650 million years ago there must have been a melting process with the source of heat outside of the moon.

Only after the moon had once again become solid did collisions with meteorites and comets leave traces on the moon's surface that can be seen today in the form of seas and craters that puzzled science for such a long time.

We know today that the moon is 4,600 million years old but we do not know whether this makes it older or younger than the Earth.

Professor Richard L.M. Synge spoke of proteins and poisons in plants and, in this context, of the role played by these poisons in the self protection of many plants against aggression from the animal world.

He thought of breeding crops with genetic changes so that they grew poisonous and therefore resistant to pests. These poisons could then be made safe for human consumption by the normal means of preparation. This already occurs with many leguminous plants.

Synge therefore agreed with Count Lennart Bernadotte, the patron of the Lindau Nobel Prizewinners' Congresses.

Count Bernadotte had demanded an end to the indiscriminate pollution and destruction of the human environment, an appeal compatible with the great humanitarian aim of all scientific efforts toward a better existence for mankind.

Karl-Heinz Ebert

(Handelsblatt, 8 July 1970)

X-rays to be used to reduce gnat population

Along the banks of the Upper Rhine the annual plague of gnats from the many pools, ponds and backwaters is once again tormenting inhabitants of all the towns between Basle in the south and Mainz in the north.

It has almost reached catastrophe proportions this year after the floods in May. Locals say that there have never been so many gnats around and scientific observations support them.

Alsace and the Federal states of Baden-Württemberg, Hesse and Rhineland Palatinate all suffer.

Neither chemicals nor questions in the Provincial Assemblies have yet succeeded in driving the gnats out of their native pools.

The three Federal states have now agreed on a new secret weapon. Professor Hanns Laven of Mainz University's genetics department has been given an initial budget of 100,000 Marks to stamp out the gnats genetically.

The fame of Professor Laven has spread from Okpo, a Burmese village, to the southwest of the Federal Republic. In his first large-scale experiment Laven had taken only eight weeks to exterminate the whole insect population of Okpo, a village surrounded by grassland.

He had let several thousand male gnats bred in his own laboratory loose on the native female gnats of the *culex fatigans* variety.

His own strain was more powerful than males of the *culex fatigans* variety and mated with the females. There were no offspring.

Professor Laven will use a similar method along the Upper Rhine.

It consists of semi-sterilisation. The gnats will be treated with X-rays so that they continue to live but their offspring will only be fit for a limited existence.

(DIE WELT, 7 July 1970)

VW Foundation donates 9 million Marks to Freiburg University

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

The Volkswagen Foundation is to donate nine million Marks to finance the setting up of a department for mathematics at Freiburg University.

Darmstadt Technical University is to receive a chair for mathematics, Bochum University a chair for physics and Tübingen University a chair for chemistry and one for biology.

The Volkswagen Foundation is donating 125 million Marks for each of these new departments.

The establishment of new departments for scientific education is connected with the Volkswagen Foundation's support for training mathematicians and scientists for teaching at high schools.

75 million Marks have so far been set aside for this purpose. 5,400 students and teachers on probation have received grants from this sum.

The Foundation not only plans to increase the number of teachers but also wants to contribute to an improved, more practical training of prospective teachers.

Teaching and research done at these new educational departments will show what findings, ways of thinking and methods must be considered for high school teaching.

(DIE WELT, 8 July 1970)

Ernst Bloch celebrates his eighty-fifth birthday

When Ernst Bloch, Emeritus Professor for philosophy at Leipzig's Karl Marx University, returned to the Federal Republic after the Berlin Wall had been built, this was interpreted here as the collapse of dialectical materialism of the Stalinist and non-Stalinist stamp.

People who claimed that this was the case were overlooking the fact that Bloch, now 85, had never been accepted by hack philosophers and historians of a Stalinist stamp. Bloch was and is one of the few thinkers whose work has retained the almost daemonic dynamism of material philosophy.

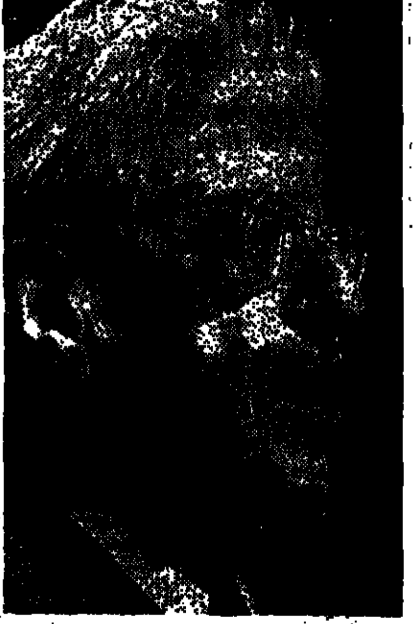
Even the first words of his *Tübingen Introduction to Philosophy I*, the first book he published after moving to the Federal Republic, must have been remarkable to all those who believed that the philosopher's dissatisfaction with the state of affairs in one part of Germany would have led to a glorification of the other part.

To quote: "I am. But I do not have myself. For that reason we only become." These three sentences show Bloch's disruptive dialectic force that today makes the philosopher a representative of a better Germany even though it has assumed more mystical features.

Bloch was born in Ludwigshafen on 8 July 1885 and soon experienced Germany's distressing situation. Berne, Zurich, Vienna, Paris, Prague, New York and Cambridge were the successive stages of his emigration.

Bloch, long a Communist in spite of being the son of wealthy Jewish family, settled in Leipzig in 1949, hoping to take part in the construction of a new Germany.

He rejected Theodor Adorno's offer of a post in the Federal Republic by saying that he did not want to work for capitalism.

(Photo: dpa)

He was welcomed by the Ulbricht regime with open arms. He had after all defended the Stalinist show trials while in the United States.

But he soon came into conflict with socialist reality. When the third volume of his main work *The Principle of Hope* appeared in 1959 – it was withdrawn not long afterwards – Bloch was finally attacked by hard-line ideologists who accused the philosopher of not seeing his visions of human freedom realised in the German Democratic Republic. His work was dismissed out of hand as "religion".

Indeed there is a religious feature in Bloch's philosophy as relieved estrangement of Mankind is only presented as a vision.

Bloch always has the concrete aim taken over from Karl Marx: "The naturalisation of humanity and the humanisation of nature" but Bloch can only conceive of this aim in the past, in the outstanding products of the human intellect.

He was an expert on the history of the human mind and not only in the West. Bloch's views of these products are fascinating. One example is when he sees his ideas on crossing the boundaries toward knowledge embodied in Goethe's *Faust*.

But this strength of Bloch's that makes *The Principle of Hope* into a dialectically interpreted compendium of the development of the mind, that frees Hegel from the illusion of representing the world spirit and gives him a decisive position in the established self-identity in depth is at the same time his weakness.

Its Utopian aim of a better human condition is incontestable but in its concrete form and under existing conditions it must remain vulnerable.

Friedrich Heer once said of Bloch that he was the philosopher of the German revolution that had never taken place.

No revolution can be carried out by following Bloch. This old patriarch is no father figure for young revolutionaries and no guarantor of restorative tendencies. He is part of that principle of hope he wrote about.

Ulrich Schreiber

(Handelsblatt, 8 July 1970)

■ THE ECONOMY

The rights and wrongs of controlling the economy with tax measures



No one is particularly keen to pay out good money without getting something tangible in return. So many people are a little perturbed to hear from the tax officials that they will now have to pay a ten per cent supplement on their income tax.

They are asking angrily why they have to pay more when their taxes are quite high enough already. They cannot see why they are having to suffer just because the government did not step in quickly enough and stop the inflationary trends in the economy in good time.

In fact this repayable tax supplement, like the measures imposed by the Bundesbank, punishes the innocent so that the guilty shall not escape punishment. There is no way of sorting out the sheep from the goats.

It is also an unmistakable fact that middle-sized concerns will be harder hit by the new measures than the industrial giants.

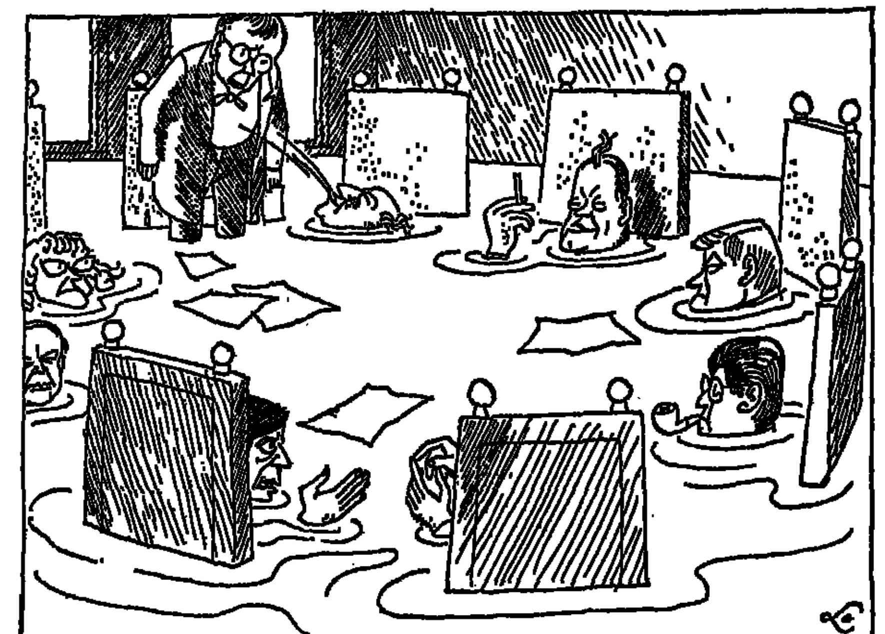
Similarly employees in the medium wage ranges are most severely affected. They have been affected by the sharp progression in day rates which has bled them, and now they have to pay the three per cent supplementary levy on income tax and in addition the ten per cent repayable levy.

Lower income earners are spared both of these levies. Certainly this is justifiable in social terms, but it does mean the intended effect of cutting down the public's purchasing power is somewhat weakened. Only by subjecting all income groups to supplementary levies could there be a one hundred per cent effective cut in spending.

What is likely to have an even more disastrous effect on the economy however is the fact that 2,600 million Marks of public money, which was tied up for the first half of this year is now free for the government to spend.

Some people may be of the opinion that the government could be pardoned for spending this money, which will go largely for transport and defence. The fact is, however, that when this money becomes liquid and is spent by the government this will more than match the cuts in the public's spending power brought about by the tough new economic measures.

So there can be talk of slamming the brakes on spending by means of harsh new taxes!



Cabinet discusses economic problems

(Cartoon: E.M. Lang/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

As a general rule controlling the economy by means of fiscal measues is a doubtful procedure and open to suspicion. Many finance wizards are not in favour of it.

For instance Professor Haller, who is State Secretary in the Bonn Finance Ministry, is of the opinion that "such measures are really only justified when other ways of cutting down overall demand cannot be used."

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung has always been opposed to government's using fiscal measures to cut spending before the complete arsenal of weapons at the disposal of the Bundesbank has been tried.

Now, however, with Bank Rate at a giddy height of 7.5 per cent and the recent raising of the minimum reserves the Bundesbank would appear to be at the end of its tether.

Anything that the Bundesbank tried to do now could not help but push up Bank Rate even higher. As a result of this money would come flooding in from abroad and efforts to check runaway inflation, which are directed at keeping the level of liquid cash as low as possible could be undermined.

In a situation such as this there is nothing else to do but support the Bundesbank in the efforts it has so far made virtually single-handed in order to check the economic boom. These efforts should be backed up with fiscal measures.

One of the most powerful weapons would be a drastic cut in government spending.

A noticeable cut in general demand would quickly cool down the economic climate. On the other hand the tax measures that the government has introduced will need some time to take effect.

In addition to this there is the danger that industry will try to make good the liquidity of which it has been robbed by higher taxes by claiming more credit.

Likewise there will be members of the general public who are not prepared to cut their spending despite the higher burden of taxation. They will make good the loss by going to the bank and plundering their deposit accounts.

In both these cases the goal at which higher taxation is aimed will be thwarted and the desired effect on the economy will not be achieved.

On the other hand the high level of interest at the moment is a temptation for people to leave their savings on deposit, and for industrialists to limit the amount of money they borrow.

Faced with circumstances such as these it would be quite mad for the Bundesbank to lower Bank Rate at the present moment as many people are obviously hoping will be done, and introducing a lower interest level. There is not the slightest justification for such measures.

A tight rein must be kept so that industrial concerns are prevented as far as possible from passing off additional tax burdens in the form of higher prices. Likewise trade unions must be discouraged from helping their members to cope with higher taxes by demanding further wage increases.

In addition to this it should be added that industrial concerns and trade unions alike have no grounds for increased prices and increased wage demands, since the new tax supplement is not a definitive measure but simply a temporary one. The supplement will be paid back in time.

Now that the Bundesbank has done its bit to help get the economy back on its feet and the government has made a contribution, albeit an imperfect one, industrailists, trade unions and consumers must in their turn help this country in its fight against depreciation by taking responsible attitudes.

The alternative is utter disaster.

Hans Roeper

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 July 1970)

The long and the short

(Cartoon: Felix Mussil/Frankfurter Rundschau)

Industry's comment on latest Bonn economic measures

Economists are welcoming the measures being taken by the government at long last to try to regain control of the economy even though they consider these measures extremely belated.

One or two points of the government programme are being criticised by those with vested interests. Above all the plan to withdraw temporarily the tax relief on industrial investments (degressive depreciation) is coming in for attack.

The Confederation of Federal Republic Employers' Associations is of the opinion that the limitation of allowances on depreciation will rob the economy of the opportunity of making sufficient investments aimed at rationalisation.

It is precisely investments of this kind that are required if productivity is to be increased and some compensation made for spiralling wage costs.

The Confederation has appealed to trade unions to draw their own conclusions from the decisions made in Bonn and to steer a course in their wages policies that is "neutral in its effect on the economy and on prices".

In one statement made by the Federal Republic Employers' Association it says: "Nobody would understand it if the two sides of industry, workers and employers, did not do everything possible to return to a rational wages and salaries policy".

Electricity supply concerns consider themselves particularly hard hit by the government's decision on degressive depreciation. They cannot cut down the amount spent on capital investment since they are required by law to keep up supplies sufficient to match demand.

This means in this industry withdrawal of these allowances loses all its intended effect and only creates financial difficulties for the industry.

There is general approval of the measures announced by the Cabinet in connection with credit. The Federal Republic savings and giro bank association calls these measures late, but better late than never.

On the other hand the Confederation of Federal Republic Banks regrets the interference in decisions concerning investments which are so important for economic growth.

The repayable surcharge on income tax would be more effective without the suspended social welfare clause and the bankers have called on both sides of industry to seize their last chance to make a stand.

The national banks have called for a speedy relaxation of restrictive credit policies so that the economy will not be too hard hit by Bonn's proposals.

A fair degree of approval was registered by the Central Union of Federal Republic Craftsmen. All in all the complete package of economic measures seems well suited to create stabilising effects. But the craftsmen too have come out in favour of lowering interest rates in the near future.

The Building Trade Union is particularly keen to see a lower Bank Rate.

The metal trade employers' union (Gesamtmetall) has stated that as a result of wage increases, longer holidays, local tariff agreements and several measures introduced to help metalworkers boost their capital, employees in the metal-working industry have enjoyed an above average improvement in their standard of living in the past two years.

There can be no question of metal workers having "something to catch up" on the rest of industry.

The Federal Republic White-Collar Workers' Trade Union has condemned the government's "tax in advance" measure, saying that it is not a suitable way of regaining price stability.

(DIE WELT, 9 July 1970)

■ BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

No easy way to the top, says Europe's top personnel adviser

Patent recipes for a career just do not exist. This is a point made again and again by Gerhard Kienbaum, head of the largest personnel advice organisation in Europe.

But with his many years of experience Kienbaum can obviously give a few guidelines. He lays the main stress on preserving specific duties and responsibilities. This seems to him to be the best way to achieve success.

Gerhard Kienbaum is all for the American idea of *training on the job*, although he makes a few modifications. This means giving personnel training for specific duties.

A period as a trainee in a gigantic organisation such as AEG, Siemens or Unilever seems to him to be time wasted particularly for someone who will be working in a medium-sized concern or a *family firm*.

Is there in fact an ideal course for a career to take? Are there specific platforms from which the leap into a top managerial position is easy?

Kienbaum says *no*. "This idea contradicts the basic fact that we live in a society that is constantly changing. These changes mean that the route to a top position in management is constantly changing.

"One thing that is certainly a myth is the idea that there is ever a platform from which an easy leap into a top job can be made. Getting to the top is always a long, hard climb."

Accordingly Gerhard Kienbaum does not lay great importance on the field of study that a trainee chooses.

He said: "To become a leader in industry there are two requirements. A man must have the ability to analyse problems. To be able to analyse problems he must be well acquainted with specific techniques, yardsticks and criteria.

"On the other hand it is vital that a trainee should have had some practical training for his duties and responsibilities. These two factors are essential for any position in leadership, no matter how high up the ladder of power it may be."

Training in the analysis of problems is given at all levels, however. And so Kienbaum sees no reason why schooling in German studies or theology, for instance, should not be regarded as a sound basis for a top managerial position.

He added by way of explanation: "I really do believe that when talking of top managerial positions we should not confine our ideas to leading roles in industry and other concerns.

"I consider that managerial training can be useful in running all kinds of organisations – universities for instance. This sort of position can make higher demands of managerial training schemes than the classic role of leader of industry."

The other aspect of managerial training of which Herr Kienbaum speaks, experience on the practical side, does not present any golden rules that must be followed to get to the top of the treee.

He said: "Whether this aspect of managerial trainings is conducted as a sandwich course in industry, an apprenticeship or a session of practical training on completion of the theoretical side is of minor importance."

Nor does he take much account of examination marks, considering them of little value in assessing a man's true worth.

He said: "On the other hand I would be hesitant to say that a man is cut out for a top position in management if all his examination results are mediocre. To reach the top of the ladder a trainee has got to have at least one subject to which he can point and say 'that is my strong point'. An above average exam result in one subject is desirable."

What Gerhard Kienbaum does consider of vital importance is a sound knowledge of a foreign language or languages. "I consider that nowadays a knowledge of a foreign language is the basis on which a candidate for a leading managerial position builds. I would not stress that a number of foreign languages should be spoken like a native.

"The essential foreign language for a trainee in the Federal Republic is English and it looks as though this will hold true for some time to come. But if a man plans to go into the export trade then I would say that at least one other foreign language beside English is vital, or preferably two.

"It is a moot point whether the best second foreign language after English is French, or perhaps Spanish, or even one of the Slavic languages."

Is a knowledge of electronic data processing an essential on the road to the top?

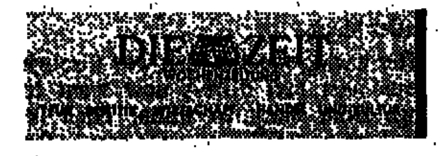
Kienbaum said: "It seems to me that electronic data processing is considered by many people to be a major development of the twentieth century. My answer to this question would be no, but I would stress that a familiarity with work systems, organisation of labour forces and in particular complicated work procedures is absolutely essential no matter what sphere of management is being aimed at."

All these qualifications and talents such as good exam results, a knowledge of foreign languages and a familiarity with electronica data processing are important factors for many personnel managers when they are taking on staff, but they are not decisive.

What is decisive is the impression a person makes.

How does a personnel manager gauge the personality of an applicant for a post?

"When a personnel manager is striving to find the right man for the right job, he cannot rely on his own feelings about the



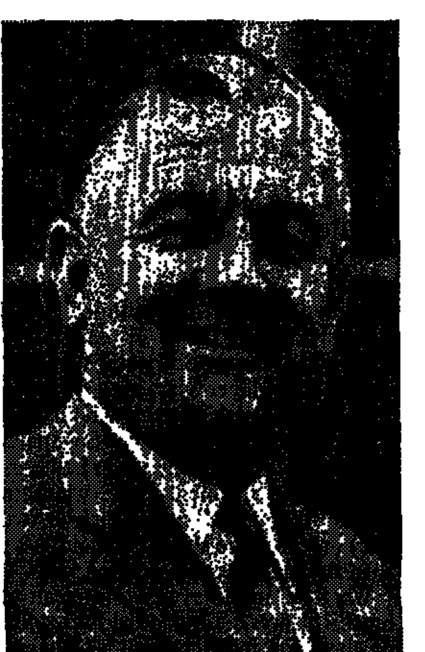
applicant alone. What he must do is weigh up carefully exactly what the man's prospective immediate superiors expect of the person who is to fill the vacancy, and what the company as a whole will require him to do.

"Thus a picture is built up of what the vacancy requires. And these requirements are then compared with the capabilities that the applicant shows himself to have. They are also compared to the man's experience and knowledge. How much the man knows about his job can be seen quite clearly from the programme of career training he has undertaken. His experience must be gauged on his previous employment and his ability to tackle tests given him.

"Therefore I believe that quite obviously it is insufficient to take the impression that an applicant makes on a personnel manager as the basis for giving him a contract or not."

Is it essential to obtain information about the previous career achievements of an applicant and weigh these factors up?

"This alone is not sufficient. What a man has achieved over a period of years or months in certain jobs given to him



Gerhard Kienbaum

(Photo: Ilse Gollmer)

before is no yardstick for his talents and what he could achieve in another firm. Such information only shows that he has tackled his duties, with what success he has tackled them and under what conditions.

"Obviously it is not possible to obtain information such as this simply by question and answer. Data such as this must be confirmed by checks and double checks. This is the system I always use.

"I have learned by experience that the way a prospective employee presents himself at a certain time, in certain conditions, when asked certain questions differs from the impression he gives in the same conditions, faced with the same questions, but at a different time.

"Checking alone is not enough. It is vital to double check so that some kind of average can be found between the good impression a man may give on one occasion and the not so satisfactory impression he gives at another time for various reasons. Only thus can we see how a man is likely to perform over a long period."

Gerhard Kienbaum is concerned about getting the facts of a man's former career. But this is not his only concern.

"The facts do not end at what a man achieved in his previous job. By interviewing and asking specially prepared questions, and by changing the subject an interviewer can get an impression of how a prospective employee will fit into a new situation and how quickly he will adapt. This is a quality that is absolutely essential for a man who hopes to reach the top in management."

What importance is there in the question of how often a prospective employee has changed his job? Is so-called job-hopping, the frequent change of jobs to a better paid position, a swifter and more successful way to the top? Or does this just apply to America? In the Federal Republic is it not perhaps better to stay with one company and take regular, steady rises in income and position with a view to reaching the top at a certain time?

Kienbaum answered: "This question can only be tackled with a view to the job and the firm in which a man is working his way up. Ambitious men in America rely upon finding constant favour when they change jobs. In the Federal Republic many personnel managers are happy to see a man frequently change his job as long as he remains with one company.

"If he flits from one company to another spending only a few months with each I have found it is likely to have a detrimental effect on his efforts to reach the top.

"My personal advice would be for a man to change jobs and move to another company every two or three years while he is still young. A change of scene is likely to be beneficial rather than detrimental."

Rainer Brinckschulte

(DIE ZEIT, 3 July 1970)

TALKING POINTS

Frankfurt's autumn fair

Exhibitors at the Frankfurt autumn fair, to be held from 30 August to 2 September this year are optimistic about their sales prospects at the fair.

The Fairs and Exhibitions Organisation in Frankfurt said, however, that it would be wrong to speak of general all-round optimism. At the moment the economic situation as it will affect exhibitors from all branches of the economy at the international fair is none too clear.

Products from over 2,750 firms will be on offer at the Frankfurt autumn fair. About 2,500 firms will be there as direct exhibitors. Apart from Federal Republic goods to be viewed and ordered at the fair there will be products from 570 companies representing 43 countries.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 July 1970)

Electorate pessimistic

Pessimism with regard to the economic situation in this country seems to be a growing trend, according to the Wickert Institute in Tübingen.

Their survey showed that 37 per cent of the electorate believe that in the second half of this year the economic situation will deteriorate.

Twenty-three per cent think things will improve and forty per cent foresee few changes in the next six months.

The percentage of pessimists is thus only seven per cent down on the crisis year 1966. At the end of 1969 only seventeen per cent of the electorate predicted that storm clouds would gather on the economic horizon.

(Handelsblatt, 8 July 1970)

More wine drunk

Last year each person in this country spent 22 Marks on wine, according to figures published by organisations connected with the wine industry.

With a steadily increasing rate of sales and fairly stable prices there has been in the past five years an increase of about fourteen per cent in the amount spent on wine.

Further figures show that the amount of wine bought per member of a household was 6.59 litres, which shows a slight increase on the previous year's figure.

In the year for which this report was issued each household bought wine on average six and a half times!

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 July 1970)

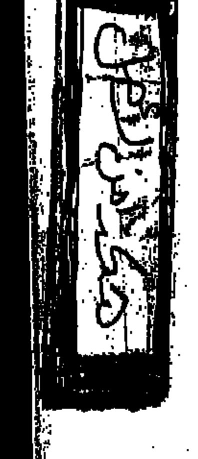
More chickens eaten

A new chicken-eating record was set up by citizens of the Federal Republic in the economic year 1969-70, according to the office for consumer advice in Bonn.

Between July 1969 and June 1970 as many as 280 million chickens were consumed in this country. This was an increase of 7.2 per cent on the previous economic year, or 19 million chickens!

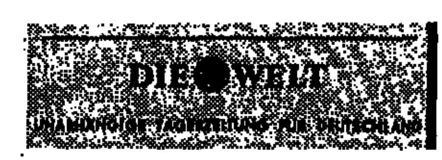
The consumer advice office stated that chicken breeders in this country managed to keep up with the extra demand. They increased their output by nearly twenty per cent to 131 million chickens.

(Hannoversche Presse, 1 July 1970)



■ AUTOMOBILES

Road safety and the man at the wheel



A single chip of granite sent flying by the car in front can mean curtains for the annual holiday of many a motorist. The stone shatters the single-layer safety glass windscreen and the traveller sustains eye injuries.

Yet windscreens are only one factor in the mosaic of built-in car safety. There is so much more: concertina zones fore and aft designed to absorb the impact of a collision, passenger compartments designed to survive impact without deforming, doors and locks designed not to burst open and the like.

Invisible struts designed to bear the brunt to turning turtle are as much part and parcel of automotive safety as brakes that do not block. Cars today have steering columns designed to give on impact and not impale the luckless driver, or so it is hoped.

Safety means good vision, tyres that stand up to a good deal of wear and tear, shock absorbers, suspension, springs and wheel rims, fuel tanks and systems, brake tubing and sensible temperature controls, heated rear windows and dashboard controls that leave the driver in no doubt as to their function, safety belts and seats.

To read manufacturers' handouts it would be supposed that car-buyers nowadays are offered no end of safety precautions. To read accident reports in the press and on radio and TV the observer is justified in wondering how it is that so many people are still involved in accidents.

Cars have become far safer than they used to be, but at the same time they are faster and more powerful. Progress in safety is continually being overtaken by greater speed and power.

The safe car as proclaimed in the United States and to be built there at government request presents no problems. The problematic factor is Man with his built-in mistakes. Besides, the safety sold today is only half-safe.

Seat belts, for instance, are as a rule not safe enough to guarantee safety on impact at 25 miles an hour.

Most head rests in and on "safety seats" have little point. In a collision they will not support the head and neck of the driver or passengers should they be thrown back. When it comes to the crunch either the head rest snaps back or the entire seat is torn out of its mountings.

These are only two of many alarming facts registered by Warentest, the independent consumer institute in Berlin set up with government support, and ADAC, the largest motoring organisation on the Continent.

They are, for that matter, only two of many safety aspects of cars. How would the allegedly so safe passenger compartment or the shock-absorbing concertina zones fare in tests conducted by independent organisations?

How, one may well ask, would similar tests end if safety steering columns were to be subjected to scrutiny?

And what about windscreens? In a number of countries, including the United States and Sweden, the leading country for car safety, multi-layer glass is mandatory. In this country single-layer glass is felt to be adequate for the job.

While single-layer glass shatters into fragments on impact (it is, needless to say, cheaper) a multi-layer windscreen absorbs impact without immediately falling apart.

Opticians have not a good word to say about single-layer glass. Every day they have to deal with patients who have been at the receiving end of these fragments.

The industry, on the other hand, maintains that fragmentation windscreens (some "fragments" are in inch or two in size) are no more dangerous and less safe than the multi-layer variety.

When a multi-layer windscreen does break it leaves behind lethal long splinters of glass, the industry claims. What, it is asked, would happen if a passenger or a driver put his head through a windscreen in this condition?

Yet oddly enough, multi-layer and is used in fast, expensive models and is available as an optional extra for most others.

Whichever way you look at it the completely safe car is as much wishful thinking as the car that needs no servicing or the car that emits no noxious exhaust fumes whatsoever. It will certainly remain one for the forthcoming decade.

What, then, is to be done?

It just will not do that too many strings are pulled by too many interested parties in the safety sector. There may be any number of safety organisations that do their level best but there is no clear line.

The Traffic Safety Council, which still wavers between industry and public opinion, between government and motoring organisations of one kind and another, could function as the main coordinator.

But the council as yet lacks the personalities able to muster the full range of management enterprise. It has no really first-rate specialists, as opposed to voluntary workers who lend a hand out of a feeling of responsibility and common sense.

It is characteristic of the singular lack of eptitude shown in road safety that the president of the Traffic Safety Council happens to be the president of the Motor Manufacturers Association too.

The Council may be government-supported but the impression is conveyed that it is merely there to ease the government's uneasy conscience.

Minister of Transport Georg Leber recently stated at a traffic conference in Hanover that future governments will be judged more for their contributions to road safety than for their foreign policy successes.

How true! All the sadder, then, that this sound reasoning does not yet seem to have come home to roost other than at the Ministry of Transport.

The Traffic Safety Council needs not only financial but also moral support from the government. For some reason we still seem unable to get together technicians, engineers and road safety specialists for genuinely independent consideration of the problems involved.

Yet there can be little doubt that the motor industry knows only too well about safety aspects, far better than institutes and university departments dependent on work commissioned by the industry and better still than government road safety bodies.

As long as profit, that is, profitability, goes before safety – or at least determines it – safety will remain an also-ran.

Desirable though safer cars, safer roads, safer traffic lights and road signs and a more comprehensible and safer highway code may be there remains the human element. Is enough being done to ensure that individuals are trained to be better and less ambitious drivers?

Ninety to 95 per cent of all traffic accidents can be attributed to human error. Someone has misjudged or not taken into account speed, traffic, weather and many other factors. Man is not, when all is said and done, a walking computer.

As a rule individuals do not become more interested in cars and road safety until they themselves or a member of the family are involved in an accident, not to mention the 16,000-odd road deaths a year.

Those not involved drive on. That is how people are. Even so, road safety must remain a political concern.

F. Gert Pohle

(DIE WELT, 3 July 1970)

Taxis change from black to white

Taxi drivers are no longer content to sweat it out in black. The roofs of their taxis, which must by law be black, reach temperatures of seventy centigrade (158 degrees Fahrenheit) and temperatures of up to sixty (140 Fahrenheit) have been recorded inside.

Why, taxi drivers everywhere wonder, cannot taxis be in less heat-absorbing colours? Yet all requests to the authorities so far have been countered with reference to the 1939 regulation that specifies black.

After having sweated their way through 32 summers taxi drivers now want to change from black to white. Their laments have now fallen on open ears in the Bonn Ministry of Transport.

Experts are now considering which colour is to be selected for the taxi look of the future. At the moment white seems likely to head the list.

(Münchner Merkur, 14 July 1970)

Volkswagen break ne[w] ground with the K 70

Starting this autumn the Volksw[agen] K 70 will run off the assembly l[ine] at the new Volkswagen works in Salz[git]ter. The new model, developed ready f[or] manufacture by NSU prior to the me[rger] with Audi and the subject of interes[t] its unveiling because of the techni[cal] concepts behind it, betrays NSU de[sign] despite the VW emblem on its bonnet.

The K 70 differs from any Volksw[agen] to date in almost every respect. It [not] only has a water-cooled engine and fr[ont] wheel drive but also an extremely co[mplex] chassis by Volkswagen standards.

The K 70's body slightly resembles [that] of the NSU Ro 80 and is little differ[ent] from the prototype version. It is cha[rac]terised by large, slanting front and r[ear] windows, a low waistline and relativ[ely] short overhang at front and rear.

A distinctive pleat alone the side of [the] body gives the K 70 a long and elega[nt] look. The front section of the car is [not] so attractive, though. It looks a li[ttle] clumsy.

The K 70 is available with two mod[els] of 1.6-litre, water-cooled engine. The 75-horse-power model has a compress[ion] ratio of 8:1 and runs on standard-gra[de] petrol; the ninety-horse-power model h[as] a compression ratio of 9.5:1 and so ru[ns] on super.

In both models maximum power i[s] reached at 5,200 revolutions per minu[te]. In the 75-horse-power version maxim[um] torque is 12.5 mkg at 3,500 rpm, in [the] ninety-horse-power version 13.7 mkg [at] 4,000 rpm. With overhead camshaft [and] fivefold crankshaft the engine is fu[el]led via a horizontal twin-carburettor unit.

The chassis is one of the most exp[en]sive designs on the market. All [four] wheels are independently suspended, [at the] front by cross-struts, at the rear by s[lanting] struts. Both axles have transverse s[ta]bilisers.

The front, drive axle has disc brakes [on] the inside. The rear brake drums a[re] fitted with brake control to ensure th[at] the rear does not swerve when the a[n]chors are slammed on full.

The VW K 70, available not only wit[h a] choice of engine but also in a standard [and] de luxe version is a four-door, five-sea[ter] saloon with a self-supporting all-ste[el] body.

The passenger compartment is designe[d] as a rigid cell and concertina zones fo[re] and aft are intended to absorb the impact of a collision.

The boot accommodates 84 cubic fee[t] of luggage on top of the spare wheel and the twelve-gallon (fourteen US gallons) tank is safely housed in front of the rear axle.

Interior fittings include an upholstered safety steering column, an easy-to-reach dashboard gear lever and thirteen dash-board indicators, including the speedometer.

According to works brochures the ven-tilation and heating system allows [f]or unlimited adjustment of the inflow [of] fresh and hot air, the temperature bei[ng] thermostatically controlled. There is al[so] a three-stage fan and air outlet.

The K 70, Volkswagen claim, has a to[p] speed of 93 and 99 miles an hour re-spectively and acceleration from nil t[o] sixty takes sixteen or 13.9 seconds. Av[er]age fuel consumption is 27 miles p[er] gallon in either case, the difference bei[ng] one of fuel grade.

The only information about the pri[ce] of the new model to be released is that [it] will be above that of the Volkswagen 411. At present the most expensive ver-sion of the 411 costs 8,810 Marks in th[is] country. Initial production will be 5[00] units a day.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 4 July 1970)



A prototype of the new VW K70 to be releas-ed this autumn (Photo: dpa)

■ RAILWAYS

Bundesbahn plans faster and safer inter-city links

Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, have prepared plans to boost speed. A swift inter-city network with several services a day is to be introduced next year. This presupposes speeds of around 125 miles an hour and sections that slow down traffic are to be eliminated as far as possible. The confusion of tracks at through stations is said to present no problems. Yet will a faster rail network remain the safest mode of transport?

Following the tragic succession of railway accidents in Lower Saxony a month ago the safety image of the railways among members of the general public has suffered something of a setback.

The Bundesbahn points out that not even these serious crashes, none of which have been completely examined as yet, disprove the safety of rail travel.

The robust design of express carriages prevents even more serious injury despite full carriages derailing at well over sixty miles an hour. With "Safety first, speed second" as its motto, the Bundesbahn plans to press ahead with its inter-city network.

Faster locomotives are by no means the only answer to the problem. After years of trials, though, production of a long run of super-swift 103 class electric locomotives, of which there have so far been only four in existence, is now under way for delivery in time to serve the inter-city network.

Starting next year inter-city expresses with top speeds of up to 125 miles an hour will operate on four routes between Hamburg, Munich and Basle with three-hourly services during the daytime.

In addition to a thorough inspection and modernisation of the track the expresses will be using, the most important measures to be undertaken prior to introduction of the services will be an improved signal system and new safety devices.

"More than 600 Bundesbahn expresses already travel at daily speeds of ninety miles an hour and more," Werner Hein of the Bundesbahn's Hanover region, comments. In recent years the railways have quadrupled the number of expresses travelling at these speeds.

Efforts so far have only been the beginning, though. At present only a few trains a day reach 125 miles an hour, and then only between Augsburg and Nuremberg.

125 mph on regular runs is no longer a vain hope, however, and will certainly not be when, probably in autumn next year, the new guideline system between Hamburg and Hanover is in operation.

Conventional signal systems and even the inductive system usual on most major lines (when a train passes a halt signal its brakes automatically operate) are no longer enough.

The greater the speed the longer the braking distance, particularly on rail. At 100 miles an hour even the most alert driver and the best-equipped locomotive cannot bring a train to a halt in less than a kilometre – five furlongs.

On the four main routes to and from Hanover – to Hamburg and Bremen in the north, the Ruhr in the west and Göttingen in the south – the Bundesbahn is incorporating a further safeguard: what is called overheating-radar.

These devices check passing trains, even expresses, electronically for overheated axles. Two units are in operation at Uelzen and Eschede on the Hanover-Hamburg route and two more at Verden and Rohrsen on the Hanover-Bremen route. Each device checks trains running in one direction.

At Brackwede and Bad Oeynhausen, where four tracks link Hanover and the West, overheating-radar units check two tracks in each direction, the tracks being for goods and passenger trains respectively.

Before the end of the decade, the Bundesbahn is convinced, train control on main routes will be mainly a matter for computers. The man who phones through to the next checkpoint as each train passes will remain but technology will do the donkey work, thinking in advance.

A central computer can collate information for an entire line – the 75 miles between Hanover and Bremen, for example. In cases of delay it can work out in a fraction of a second where an express will overtake a local train and transmit the necessary information to the slower train so that it can transfer to a siding, saving time for both trains.

In a few years every train driver will be accessible by telephone from headquarters and vice-versa. This all presents no technical problems and elsewhere, on the world-famous Tokaido line in Japan, for instance, it has to all intents and purposes already been put into effect.

As far as the Bundesbahn is concerned it is merely a matter of money – and thousands of millions of Marks are needed.

Other European and overseas railway systems, the French, British and Japanese in particular, prove, however, that the money is well invested and more than pays its way.

SNCF of France operates one of the fastest railway systems in Europe and in part have long since put into effect some of the reforms envisaged by the Bundesbahn.

Ten years ago British Rail was not considered to be the most up-to-date in Europe, yet in the shortest conceivable space of time it has not only withdrawn a fleet of steam locomotives comparable in size to this country's but also introduced a network of inter-city links. The inter-city connections between, say, London and Manchester, have not only regained old customers but also won new ones and even seriously compete with domestic air services.

The Bundesbahn would like to outpace private cars and air services in the same way. Rail travel is to become faster, more comfortable and above all safer. And even in 1970 the Alfeld and Celle crashes will not stop the railways from heading the list for safety in traffic.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 7 July 1970)

High-powered radar

The radar eyes of the new SRE LL 1 Telefunken medium-range all-round control device commissioned by the Federal Flight Control Institute have a range of 200 miles. Work on the first of six of these devices recently began in Bremen. These largest radar devices ever to be designed in this country not only locate even the smallest objects to a distance of 200 miles but also to a height of up to 100,000 feet. The other five are to be situated in the Palatinate Forest, Nuremberg, Stuttgart, Düsseldorf and Hamburg.

(Photo: AEG/Telefunken)

Plastic pod for satellite solar cells

With technology at its present stage of development solar cells would appear to be the best solution to the problem of providing electric power for satellites.

They are mounted on so-called module carriers which then cover the outer surface of the spacecraft and have already been used by this country in the Azur project.

At their Kassel insulation material works AEG-Telefunken have developed a new multi-layer plastic containing a system of conductor currents for connecting the various photographic elements.

These currents must be accessible from the surface at specific points in order to enable connections to be made.

The use of this material as a module carrier ensures optimum coverage of the satellite's outer surface with photographic cells.

The new carrier material is expected to fulfil the same material requirements as the entire space device in respect of resistance to extreme heat and cold, radiation and electric tension in particular.

Special manufacturing processes guaranteeing extreme cleanliness and freedom from dust and ensuring extreme accuracy in respect of dimensions and thickness were developed for the new product.

(Hannoversche Presse, 30 June 1970)



■ OUR WORLD

Postcards as an art form shown in Hamburg

Lübecker Nachrichten
Unabhängige Tageszeitung

The exhibition *Kunst und Postkarte* (Art and the Postcard) being held at the Altona Museum celebrates the 100th anniversary of the postcard, which was first accepted as a legal form of mail by the postal authorities of north Germany on 1 July 1870.

The non-picture postcard was so popular that on the first day it was allowed 45,468 passed through the postal services.

In the same year the first picture postcards with views appeared and these are, of course, the mainstay of the exhibition.

Apart from the roughly 1,000 printed picture postcards the exhibition shows 250 painted by artists.

The bulk of these picture postcards comes from the Museum's own collection which was started five years ago, but some postcards have been loaned by private collectors.

The great impetus to collecting postcards came in 1962 with the exhibition *Bemalte Postkarten und Briefe Deutscher Künstler* (Decorative postcards and letters painted by German artists).

At the exhibition there are postcards showing artistic reproductions of famous paintings, and some original designs. In this way the exhibition gives not only a cultural history of the past 100 years by means of the postcard but also shows the history of art in the past century in miniature format.

At first it was thought unseemly for completely open communications such as this to be sent through the post but by 1897 there were already a dozen lithography firms operating solely to produce picture postcards. The holiday postcard had made its march of progress.

Turnover was increased by the fact that postcards were not always sent but were sometimes just collected.

Reproductions of famous paintings aroused great interest in art and helped to advertise picture galleries. In fact for some postcard collectors they became the stuff of their own private art collections. This passion for collecting postcards lasted until around the end of the Second World War. Afterwards interest subsided when photography became a hobby anyone could pursue.

Postcard printers have never been limited in their choice of subjects. Apart from reproductions of famous paintings they have indulged in everything from trivia to downright kitsch.

Precisely for this reason picture postcards are valuable material in the study of social history. They reflect far less the development of the pictorial arts in the past century than the attitude towards the arts and the understanding of them of large sectors of society.



Otto Kopp's invitation card for an artists' party drawn about 1907
(Photo: Katalog)

Postcards that are not just for sending through the post but also for collecting in the albums of the middle classes reflect the eduction and taste of their owners.

There are many different facets to this exhibition and it is difficult to lump them together. The exhibition catologue lists around 500 artists, some famous such as Hans Thoma, Oskar Kokoschka, Lovis Corinth and Emil Nolde, others unknown or long since forgotten.

Even more interesting is the section with postcards written and painted by artists. The first painted postcard dates from 1880. The period before expressionism includes work by the open air painters.

Apart from these mention must be made of the humorous sketches and caricatures made on postcards. There is a particularly large section on the *Brücke* artists and those of the *Blauer Reiter* school.

There are many pictorial references to periodicals such as *Der Sturm, Die Aktion, Die Novembergruppe* and *Das Bauhaus*. And the trends during the Third Reich are also to be seen.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 5 July 1970)

Horses and umbrellas at Hanover's lost property office

It may not be called Meteor or Halla (two famous German horses) but it is chestnut with a blaze on its forehead, it dilates its nostrils in a businesslike fashion, shuffles its hooves impatiently and waits for sugar. It is unmistakably a horse.

This horse has no name. In the lost property office it is item number 762. An honest, upright citizen of Lower Saxony found it wandering jockey-less and owner-less in the suburbs of Hanover and handed it over to the lost property authorities.

Since then the noble racing animal has been kept in an animals' home near Hanover waiting for jockey and owner to turn up and claim it. How long it will have to wait is anyone's guess.

One known fact is that people who work in lost property offices are not easily ruffled. Day in day out they have to reckon with the impossible.

Although it is not every day that lost, stolen or strayed horses and other quadrupeds are brought in, lost property offices do have to cope with a great variety of unusual finds.

There are enough honest citizens who do not believe in finders-keepers in Hanover to ensure that the lost property office of the municipal authorities, the tramways, the postal authorities and the Bundesbahn can never complain that business is bad.

Honest citizens bring to the lost property office a regular supply of lost keys, second-hand dentures, velocipedes, bath-chairs, handbags and attache cases.

Lost umbrellas are legion and hardly need to be mentioned here.

But it is not always objects of no great value that are left lying around and forgotten. On occasions valuable pieces of jewellery are handed in. Many people would have to work a lifetime to be able to afford them, yet they end up in the lost property office with a number and a price tag showing 1,000 Marks or more.

One woman employee at the lost property office said: "This would not be so surprising if it were not for the fact that very few people call here and claim these valuable objects as their own. Those who have lost them obviously do not reckon with the honesty of the general public and consider they are lost forever or they are simply no longer interested in the article lost."

Is this perhaps an accompanying factor of the economic miracle? People who work in lost property offices are continually considering this question.

Monday is the day when turnover is greatest. After the events of the weekend there is always plenty of flotsam and jetsam of our welfare society in the offices of public transport and other lost property offices. Supply is particularly great at this time and demand remains fairly low.

The biggest problem for lost property offices is when they have to deal with unwieldy objects such as bicycles and other forms of transport.

So that storerooms do not get too cluttered up there is a sale every month by auction of bicycles, and these can be obtained dirt cheap.

The proceeds from this auction are put into a reserve fund and if the owner of a missing bicycle turns up within a year and claims his machine he is given the cash raised at the auction.

However, part of this money goes as a reward to the finder and the owner can contest this if he wishes. But cases where the owner turns up after a month are quite rare, as experience has shown.

Not only bicycles are lost but also many other more or less valuable and easily lost articles, and these mount up to on average 300 articles per month.

Twice a year they come under the hammer. In order to save time and expense the less valuable objects are packed away in boxes on which an estimated value is placed as a guide for the auctioneer and these are sold as surprise packages.

These auctions attract several regular customers and according to the initiated these people are quite content to buy a pig in a poke, take it home and give themselves a pleasant or unpleasant surprise.

Obviously second-hand dentures have for some time not been finding any satisfied second owners.

Today artificial sets of teeth are burnt under strict control.

(Hannoversche Presse, 2 July 1970)

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Boss and his role

Although ninety per cent of workers in this country claim to be quite happy with their bosses, 46 per cent believe that their firm would continue to run smoothly and efficiently as ever if "the old man" disappeared off the face of the earth for two years!

Many employees have a good word to say for their superiors, according to a survey conducted by the Federal Republic Committee for Industry and Trade.

Fifty-six per cent said the boss was *progressive*, 52 per cent called him *enterprising* and forty per cent said he was *sociable*. (DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 3 July 1970)

Zeppelin flight

Graf Zeppelin made the first successful flight with his airship seventy years ago on 2 July 1900. The dirigible, known then as "the balloon", was 128 metres long, weighed 4,000 kilogrammes and was driven by a sixty horsepower Daimler motor.

Twelve thousand cubic metres of gas contained in 2,000 cylinders held the airship aloft.

Several thousand eager spectators gathered to see the flight at Friedrichshafen but because of unfavourable wind conditions they had to wait till evening to see some action.

Finally it was all systems go! One reporter wrote: "It was 7.45pm. when the shout went up 'Let her go'. The colossus rose slowly into the air – five or six metres. There was another shout of command: 'Higher!'

„The massive balloon that had been held on chains until that moment suddenly was floating free and the voices of a thousand and more spectators shouted 'Hurrah'. For a moment the point of the massive balloon dipped towards the water, but it raised itself again and the airship turned round on its own axis, showing by such manoeuvres how easy it was to steer.

"At the landing stage in Immenstadt the airship came to rest after 18 minutes flight. The amount of ground covered in free flight was six kilometres."

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 July 1970)

An expanding country

In 1969 the Federal Republic "grew" by nineteen square kilometres! Figures published by the Federal Statistics Office show that the total surface area of this country increased to 248,571 square kilometres in 1969 from 248,552.

The reasons for this expansion are partly land given up by the sea and partly land reclaimed from the sea.

According to statisticians the population of the Federal Republic rose from around 60,460,000 in early 1969 to 61,195,000 by the end of the year.

(DIE WELT, 4 July 1970)

In darkest Hesse!

Hesse now has its own little bit of East Africa! A game reservation has been opened at Wallerstädten, near Gross Gerau, in the Hesse marshlands.

The reservation has been stocked with thirty lions, and a number of elephants, zebras, tigers and other wild animals.

This Hesse safari-land can be crossed by bus or car along a five kilometres (about three miles) long road. The entrance fee is twelve Marks.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 July 1970)

■ SPORT

Racing drivers – men who play with death

In the first six months of this year 22 people died in motor racing. The scintillating spectrum of a speed sport has been sullied by 22 dark patches. Fourteen died in June alone, one of motor racing's blackest months.

Once again a conscientious boycott raises many issues concerning the sense and nonsense of an activity located in the no man's land between reason and unreason, between life and death.

What is surprising is that not the fashionable spectators, eyebrows raised, nor bards familiar with the business but the drivers themselves coined the phrase "self-immolation" in this context.

In view of the increasing speed and inadequate safety on the track, drivers' lust for adventure comes into conflict with the fear of danger.

Jackie Stewart and his Formula I colleagues are the men on the spot. Johnny Servoz-Gavin of France and Robin Widdows of England recently announced their intention of retiring and living to a ripe old age.

Yet the 1970 racing season got off to a good start. In Johannesburg the newcomer, the Granatelli clan's March, moved in with Jackie Stewart at the wheel to challenge the Formula I establishment.

Victory and defeat and the usual atmosphere of tough men, fast cars, racing beer and bikinis were echoed in documents showing the jubilant Jack Brabham wearing the winner's garland and Jackie Stewart to one side.

Stewart may have come in third but *seldom in* the history of motor racing has a complete newcomer got off to such a flying start.

The men who regardless of victory or defeat evaluate the findings of the meeting for the good of mankind, machine and the company they represent made optimistic comments, as they always do when a race ends well.

Tyre A is safe, engine block B robuster than C or D, weight distribution must be so and not so if road-holding is to be ideal – and so on. The South African Grand Prix was, then, not only a sporting event but also a test for progress.

So was Daytona, where despite smoking wrecks and injured drivers speed and endurance were tested – to the benefit of the general public and, of course, the successful firms who then deliver the goods.

The season got off to a good start. The Monte Carlo rally, the most exhausting long-distance rally in the world, a test bed in snow and ice, sorted out the sheep from the goats.

Only good material put to optimum use by progressive designers was still in the running by the time the best drivers battled for the winning points in the speed tests in the Maritime Alps north of Monaco. Despite a few injuries the Monte was an argument in favour of motor racing.

The first death of the season was an unknown. Before David Ndahura of Uganda lost control of his Ford Cortina GT at a bend along the Kitare river, Kenya, and tore into the whirls and eddies of the water he was entrant number 27 in the East African Safari.

He was merely someone far away from no parking signs and speed limits who wanted to experience the spirit of adventure of motor racing. He died in the process. Yet in David Ndahura's case there is every reason to ask which came first, the cart or the horse.

On closer investigation David Ndahura posthumously all but provided motor racing with an alibi. He drowned while trying to push his car out of the water. It was nearly a swimming accident.

A succession of accidents then began on 2 May on the Nürburgring "During training," UPI reported, "Robin Fitton of England crashed. His right leg was severed by the crash barrier. At the hospital in Bonn the doctors also noticed a fracture of the base of the skull which eventually led to his death. In the 350-cc class race Bernhard Vincon of Pforzheim also crashed and had to have his right leg amputated."

That trials can be fatal was borne out by the Tourist Trophy on the Isle of Man about which motorcycle combination world champions Deubel and Hörner write in their book "Victory and Defeat": "Here you have to use power slide." This year five TT entrants died in the process.

At Le Mans Belgian grand prix driver Jackie Ickx plunged off the track and killed an official.

Jacques Ickx, Belgian publisher and sports journalist whose son was lucky indeed to escape death in his two races so far this season, considers racing to be a way of life. "Racing drivers are free men," he says, "and free men have the right to risk their lives."

The official at Le Mans paid for this conviction with his life. So, in 1955, when French driver Pierre Levegh's car exploded in front of the main stand, did 81 spectators.

The atmosphere of speed and fame and the great wide world is artificial. Drivers themselves consider racing to be little more than a playground for madmen, to use Jackie Stewart's phrase.

"At times like these," Stewart himself admitted after the death of Piers Courage at Zandvoort, "I feel that racing is the most stupid and egoistic thing a man can do."

This thought will have occurred to him again in June when Bruce McLaren, a friend of his, died in trials at Brand's Hatch. But it was only a thought.

A few days later he and the remaining members of the Grand Prix Drivers Association battled for world championship points and high prizes at Zandvoort. "A good man," Stewart says, "can earn over a million a year."

Motor racing for profit has always been an adventure and although technology and medicine have done their best to outwit "accidental death" in the labyrinth of bends death has always been faster than the increasingly faster and more lightweight racers.

The flames that engulfed the advertisement-lined track only recently to cremate Piers Courage have yet to be beaten.

The new synthetic protective suits keep flames at a distance for seconds only. After a minute or so the hapless victim is beyond help. His skin melts and he dies a painful death.

They have all met their deaths in an age when the car as a status symbol has come to symbolise courage and dash. A kilometre on the track costs about a Mark and more and more beginners are trying their hand at a stretch of Nürburgring or Hockenheim.

Despite boycott declarations and misgivings there are more amateur and professional racing drivers all over the world this season than ever before.

Klaus Gehrmann
(DIE WELT, 11 July 1970)

Olympic topping

Now that details of the material to be used have been disclosed (coloured acrylic glass) all that remains is to erect the marquee-like structure that is to roof over twenty acres of the Olympic site in Munich. The tent roof will cover the stadium, the swimming pool and sports hall and most of the paths between them. The poles are to be erected starting on 17 August and the structure, which the manufacturers have guaranteed for ten years, is to be completed next summer. (Photo: Fritz Neuwirth)

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Soldier sportsmen

Last year 18,953 members of the armed forces earned sports proficiency badges – roughly seven por cent of the total number awarded so far. A further 3,665 fulfilled the qualifications a second or third time.

14,522 members of the armed forces gained the elementary, 811 the advanced and 270 the instructor's certificate of either the Life Saving Society or the Lifeguards' Association. A further 41,253 took elementary swimming certificates.

The army has increased the number of instructors again, too. Last year 840 soldiers became instructors, 1,995 assistant instructors and 7,410 platoon leaders.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 July 1970)

Mexico copied

North Rhine-Westphalia's new Ruhr Stadium should be modelled on Mexico City's Aztec Stadium, ex-Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Richard Stücklen commented on returning from the World Cup.

"The Aztec Stadium is virtually ideal," he noted, "but, as a football ground only, it could only be built in a conurbation like the Ruhr.

"I would also like to propose that it be financed in the same way as the Mexico City stadium was. It could be built by businessmen, thus relieving the exchequer of the financial burden."

(DIE WELT, 8 July 1970)

Soccer for West Africa

A succession of international encounters awaits the Olympic hopefuls representing the Federal Republic Football Association. The amateurs will play five internationals between August and November.

The opponents will be Uganda on 11 August in Bamberg, Hungary on 8 September in Nuremberg, England on 14 October in Leicester, Yugoslavia on 17 November in Belgrade and Czechoslovakia on 20 November in Prague.

In Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia the amateurs will accompany the professional eleven, which is due to play the host country on the following day.

On 26 December the young amateurs are to start out on a journey to West Africa that will last until 17 January.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 July 1970)

Postal record

Olympic records in 1972 are expected not only of the athletes. The post office will definitely also set up one. The Olympic village post office will be one of the largest in the country for the duration of the Games. The GPO expects 100,000 letters, cards and telegrams to be sent and 50,000 to be received daily. Cables from 15,000 telephones on the Olympic site will also converge on the post office.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 July 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT £ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	RI 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.60
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.60
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.60
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.60
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	£ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d